FRIDAY
June 13, 2025

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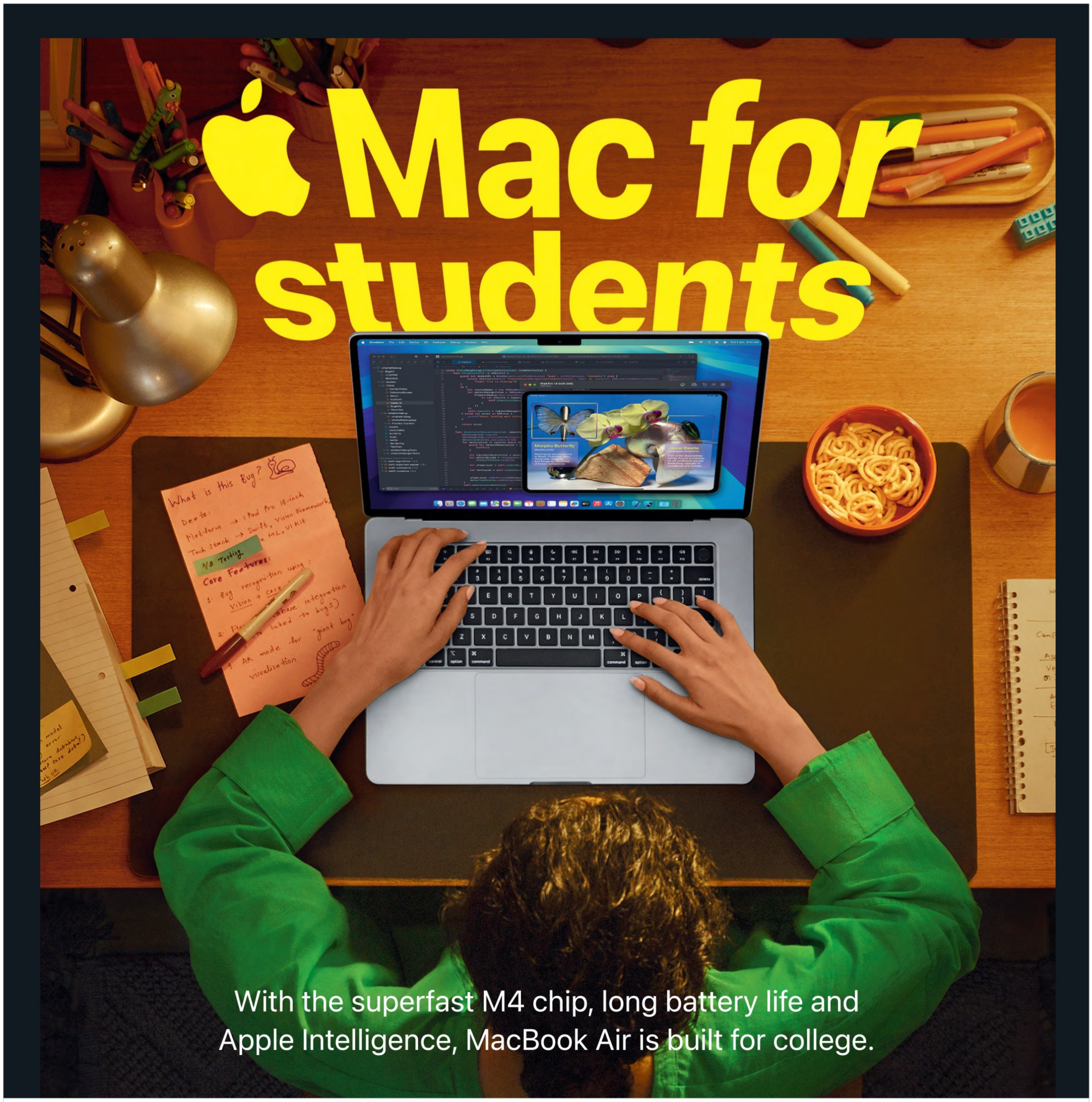
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VESSEL FIRE

Efforts hit as salvor ship runs out of fuel

SOUTH » PAGE 9

NUCLEAR ENRICHMENT

Iran announces new site after censure from IAEA board

WORLD » PAGE 16

'DANGEROUS' MANOEUVRE

Japan, China row over aircraft coming 'close'

WORLD » PAGE 16

PARLEY

Concerns over the future of Bangladesh

Is the country slipping into authoritarianism?

OPINION » PAGE 11

BOWLERS DOMINATE

Cummins takes six, but SA strikes back

SPORT » PAGE 17

NEARBY

State Cabinet gives nod for fresh caste survey

BENGALURU
Nudged by the Congress high command, which had been petitioned by some communities against accepting the Socio-Economic and Education Survey report, the Karnataka Cabinet gave its nod for a fresh survey. » Page 8

Arrest of RCSPL official, others illegal, says HC

BENGALURU
The High Court declared "illegal" the arrest of four representatives of Royal Challengers Sports Private Ltd. and DNA Networks Pvt. Ltd.

» Page 5

METROPLUS » PAGE 7

Flight with 242 on board crashes in Ahmedabad

- London-bound Boeing 787 aircraft crashes into medical college complex after take-off
- Pilot issues 'Mayday' alert soon after take-off, goes silent before the crash
- Several casualties feared on the ground with official count of those killed awaited

Jagriti Chandra
AHMEDABAD

An Air India flight from Ahmedabad to London, carrying 230 passengers and 12 crew members, crashed shortly after take-off on Thursday afternoon. A towering plume of smoke was visible from afar following a massive explosion after the aircraft plummeted into a medical college hostel five kilometres from the airport as students were gathered for lunch.

Barring one passenger who survived miraculously, no one aboard the aircraft could be rescued.

The Boeing 787-8 aircraft took off from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport in Ahmedabad at 1.38 p.m and was headed to Gatwick Airport in London. Immediately after take-off, it crashed in the residential area of Meghani Nagar.

According to CCTV footage captured by the CISF, the aircraft crashed under 40 seconds of being airborne. The aircraft was steered by pilot-in-command Sumit Sabharwal and co-pilot Clive Kunder. Government sources said the pilots gave a 'Mayday' call immediately after take-off, signalling a life-threatening emergency, but did not respond to subsequent calls made by the airport traffic control.

According to Air India, of the 230 passengers, 169 were Indians, 53 British, and seven Portuguese. One was Canadian. Former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani was among the dead. Thursday's crash is the first involving a variant of the Boeing 787 Dreamliner series.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12
MORE REPORTS ON
» PAGES 13 & 14

Tragedy on take-off
Air India flight AI-171 crashed shortly after taking off from the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport at 1:38 p.m. on Thursday
The tragedy in Ahmedabad has stunned and saddened us. It is heartbreaking beyond words. NARENDRA MODI, Prime Minister
41,000 hours
The aircraft that crashed on Thursday was nearly 12 years old with more that 41,000 hours of flying time
It had its first flight in December 2013 and was delivered to Air India in January 2014
The aircraft had almost 8,000 takeoffs and landings, including some 700 cycles in the past 12 months
There are 1,148 Boeing 787 variants in service globally, with an average age of 7.5 years
The crash marks the first deadly incident involving an aircraft from the Boeing 787 Dreamliner series
Passengers in AI 171
1 Canadian
7 Portuguese
169 Indians
53 Britons
Emergency response team at the site of the crash on Thursday. PHOTOS: VIJAY SONEJI
The tail of the Air India flight 171 that crashed shortly after take-off on Thursday. VIJAY SONEJI

Rupani's trip to meet his family in U.K. turns fatal

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, 69, was among those who perished in the crash , Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Paatil confirmed on Thursday. He described the loss as one "deeply felt by the BJP family". Rupani, who was Chief Minister between 2016 and 2021, was *en route* to London to join his wife and other members of his family.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 13

At least 5 MBBS students killed, says medical body

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

At least five MBBS students of the B.J. Medical College were killed and over 60 medical students injured when the Air India flight crashed into residential quarters of the institution on Thursday, the Federation of All India Medical Association said.

STUDENTS MISSING
» PAGE 13

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Government of Karnataka

SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Hon'ble Justice
Dr. H.N. NAGAMOHAN DAS
One-Man Commission
Yavanika, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru.

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF SCHEDULED CASTES – 2025

Do not miss out on this opportunity to submit your information through Citizen Service Centres and online self declaration.

For those who were unable to register their information during the house to house survey, an opportunity is given to participate in the survey through State Citizen Service Centres like Karnataka One, Bangalore One, Gram One, Bapuji Seva Kendra and BBMP Ward Offices from 09.06.2025.

Those participating in the survey through State Citizen Service Centres should have Ration Card or Aadhaar Card.

Those who wish to submit the self-declaration online may use the following link: https://schedulecastesurvey.karnataka.gov.in/selfdeclaration

To complete the self-declaration form online, either A) Aadhar card along with R.D number of the caste certificate or B) Ration Card is required.

Every citizen of Karnataka who is in the Scheduled Caste list should make use of this opportunity by participating in this comprehensive survey

All citizens of Karnataka who belong to the Scheduled Caste are requested to participate in the survey through Citizen Service Centres and online self declaration.

Participate in the survey through Citizen Service Centers	09-06-2025 to 22-06-2025
Self-declaration through online mode	Will continue up to 22-06-2025

As a citizen it is your duty to give details and help the Commission to arrive at scientific approach to internal reservation.

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ADI ANDHRA
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Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare Department speaks during a programme.

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Yuva Nidhi ₹3000 Per month for Graduates ₹1500 Per month for Diploma Holders

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Can Jaiswal pass the Dukes' challenge?

English conditions will be a litmus test of the opener's technique, with both edges of the bat set to be challenged; the southpaw must assume greater responsibility as India approach the post-Rohit-Kohli era

R. Kaushik

In Rahul Dravid's first stint as India head coach – it was originally scheduled to end at the conclusion of India's campaign in the 50-over World Cup in November 2023 – not too many specialist batters broke into the Test team. Shreyas Iyer was one of the exceptions, celebrating his debut in Dravid's first game as coach with a century against New Zealand in November 2021, while Suryakumar Yadav was forced into action for a solitary Test against Australia, in Nagpur in February 2023.

Then came India's tour of the West Indies in July that year, in what at the time was Dravid's last Test series in charge. Before the start of the two-Test showdown in the Caribbean, Shubman Gill requested the think-tank to slot him in at No. 3 after having opened exclusively until that point, since his debut in Melbourne in December 2021. Rohit Sharma and Dravid obliged, which meant the captain needed a new opening partner.

That opened the door for Yashasvi Jaiswal to storm through. Only 21 then, the left-hander had already made a name for himself. His journey from the anonymity of Suriyawan in Uttar Pradesh to Mumbai, India's financial and possibly cricketing capital, to pursue his passion for cricket is too well documented to bear repetition. Under the tutelage of Jwala Singh, Jaiswal began to catch the eye of the discerning, and it came as no surprise when the hunt for a replacement for Gill at the top of the batting tree ended with Jaiswal.

The young man didn't disappoint. Against Kemar Roach and Alzarri Joseph and Jason Holder, he held his own. He struck up an immediate understanding with his vastly more experienced captain, matching him stroke for breathtaking stroke during an opening stand of 229 that alone was worth 79 more than the hosts' first-innings tally. By the time Jaiswal was finally dismissed to a loose, tired stroke outside off, trying to drive Joseph on the up and nicking to the wicketkeeper, he had batted 501 minutes and negotiated 387 deliveries in making 171 of the finest.

During that innings, Jaiswal showcased immense powers of concentration and a hunger for runs that was impressive in one so young and inexperienced. Needless to say, he benefited immensely from Rohit's presence at the other end. Rohit has always had a lot of time for his fellow Mumbaikar – that's what Jaiswal's cricketing identity is, after all – but he was also aware that the younger man had a propensity to lapse into looseness (perhaps he saw in Jaiswal a younger version of his own self). Under his captain's benevolent but stern mentorship, Jaiswal made his debut series a breakthrough one, backing up that big hundred with 57 and 38 in the next Test in Port of Spain.

A difficult tour of South Africa followed, in December-January on challenging surfaces – the one laid out for the second Test in Cape Town was a disgrace, the match ending in a seven-wicket win for India inside six sessions – and while many were quick to pounce on Jaiswal for lack of returns (50 runs in four innings), those within the leadership group recognised that batting was anything but straightforward against a combination of tough tracks and an exceptional attack. Back home that same month, Jaiswal reiterated his quality with 80 in the first Test against England in Hyderabad, a spectacular assault that came off only 74 deliveries and bore no resemblance to the hard graft on debut.

That was the start of a purple patch. He hammered 209 in Visakhapatnam in the next Test and backed it up with an unbeaten 214 in the following game in Rajkot, when he became only the third Indian after Vinod Kambli and Virat Kohli to make double-hundreds in consecutive Tests. Jaiswal continued to impose himself on the English attack in the next two Tests and was one of the few bright spots against New Zealand when India were routed 3-0 at home, though he did show a distinct propensity to get himself out in the 30s.

A volume of impressive runs behind him, Jaiswal then travelled to Australia for the first time, bracing for an examination by fire against Mitchell Starc, Josh Hazlewood and Pat Cummins. One of the greatest trios to have graced the Test stage, this pack is formidable anywhere but especially at home, where it has used its familiarity with conditions and the extra height that translates to pronounced bounce to terrific effect.

Jaiswal's series began disastrously. On the first morning of the series at Perth's Optus Stadium, he was dismissed in the third over by Starc for an eight-ball duck, trying to drive on the up and nicking to gully.

This Perth Test was the first time in his fledgling career that Jaiswal wasn't opening with Rohit. The skipper was away on paternity leave, which earned yo-yo man KL Rahul a promotion to the top of the order. Their first-innings alliance lasted a mere 13 deliveries and produced just five runs, but in the second innings, the two put on 201 to build handsomely on India's 46-run advantage and compel Rohit to bat in the middle order for the first time in more than five years when he returned for the second Test in Adelaide in December.

Of similar nature

During that stand with Rahul, Jaiswal showed that he was comfortable in his new partner's company. In many ways, Rohit and Jaiswal are cut from the same cloth, both positive-minded and always on the lookout for runs. Neither has been shy of taking the aerial route even in the first over of a Test. Rahul belongs to the more traditional and conservative school, a throwback to an era where the first hour, if not the session, was given to the bowlers after which runs would be accumulated with care, without too many risks, without veering away from the percentages.

The pair of contrasts struck up an immediate rapport and Jaiswal was effusive in his praise of the role Rahul played during their five hours together. Rahul missed out on a deserved hundred, nicked off by Starc for 77, but Jaiswal carried on unflustered, breezing to 161 and leaving even battle-hardened former Australian players in raptures.

It was his third big hundred of the calendar year, which he finished with as much panache as he had started in Hyderabad; in a dispiriting defeat in Melbourne that gifted Australia a 2-1 lead with one to play, Jaiswal sparkled with 82 and 84. Australia had braced for a bushel of runs from the Kohli bat, especially after the former skipper brought up an unbeaten century in the second innings of the Perth game.

That proved a false dawn, Kohli's inadequacies outside off ruthlessly exposed as all his seven subsequent dismissals were to catches behind the

stumps. But the Australian fans had a new name to contend with, a new star to celebrate – they do that there, you know, even if their team is at the receiving end. Jaiswal was India's highest run-getter with 391, second overall only to Travis Head (448).

Five months on, Jaiswal is on the cusp of a fresh, new examination in another country where he hasn't played a Test before. England, the Dukes ball and an army of exciting pacers – not in the James Anderson league, yes, but then again, who is? – lie in wait, seeking to exploit what is by all accounts a light-on-experience batting line-up following the Test retirements of Rohit and Kohli. Jaiswal is still just 23, he only has 19 Test appearances to his name, but he is almost in the 'seasoned' category alongside his new five-day skipper, Gill, and Rahul.

It will to this trio, and the left-handed middle-order duo of Rishabh Pant and Ravindra Jadeja, that India will look for leadership and guidance – neither Abhimanyu Easwaran nor Sai Sudharsan has played a Test, and Karun Nair's last appearance was more than eight years back. Jaiswal is no longer the exciting young kid on the block. He must shoulder greater responsibility now. Whether that means cutting out the frills, going against his natural grain and adopting a semi-defensive mien, or continuing to bat at his own pace while being a little more selective in his choice of strokes, is something Jaiswal will already have worked out in consultation with head coach Gautam Gambhir and his support staff.

Historically, England has asked more questions of openers than any other land except perhaps New Zealand. Facing the new ball is fraught with danger anywhere but particularly in England, though given their recent romance with scoring frenetically even in red-ball cricket, the hosts have perforce had to lay out more batter-friendly surfaces. Jaiswal has quietly eased himself into the tour with scores of 24, 64, 17 and 5 in his four knocks for India 'A' against the England Lions in two unofficial 'Tests'. Not jaw-dropping by any standards, but he has spent time out in the middle in a competitive first-class setting, which should count for a lot.

Jaiswal travels to England armed with an impressive average of 52.88, needing 202 more to complete 2,000 Test runs. He is coming off a grand run for Rajasthan Royals in the IPL and while the temptation might be to write them off as 'just' T20 runs, nothing gives a batter more confidence than recent form, even if in a different format.

Jaiswal is the kind who will welcome the furthering of his cricketing education this early in his career – how many 23-year-olds can boast multiple Test appearances in the West Indies, South Africa and Australia? – while making sure that learning on the job doesn't come at the expense of pulling his weight.

THE GIST

- Historically, England has asked more questions of openers than any other land except perhaps New Zealand
- Jaiswal has quietly eased himself into the tour with scores of 24, 64, 17 and 5 in his four knocks for India 'A' against the England Lions in two unofficial 'Tests'
- Jaiswal travels to England armed with an impressive average of 52.88, needing 202 more to complete 2,000 Test runs. He is the kind who will welcome the furthering of his cricketing education this early in his career

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Kolar police impose curbs on vehicles on Chennai expressway stretches

Two-wheelers, three-wheelers, and tractors banned on some sections; move comes after over 15 fatalities were reported in more than 10 accidents in the past three months

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Only 71 km of the 262-km Bengaluru–Chennai Expressway has been completed and opened to traffic, primarily in Karnataka. K. MURALI KUMAR

In response to a rising number of fatal accidents on the newly constructed Bengaluru-Chennai Expressway, the Kolar district police have issued a sweeping ban on the movement of two-wheelers, three-wheelers, and tractors along certain stretches of the highway that pass through the district.

The move comes after over 15 fatalities were reported in more than 10 accidents in the past three months. Despite a circular issued by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) in March 2025 prohibiting two-wheelers on the expressway, violations have continued, prompting the police to take stricter enforcement measures.

On Monday, June 9, tragedy struck again when a car rammed into the divider near the Hedaginabele toll plaza in Malur taluk of Kolar district, killing two people on the spot. After this accident, the police banned slow-moving vehicles.

"Usually, slow-moving vehicles on the expressway force faster vehicles to brake suddenly, which often leads to loss of control and accidents," said a police official.

A police official from BEML Nagar in KGF said, "Despite the NHAI's ban on two-wheelers on the stretch, they continue to use the expressway. In addition, slow-moving vehicles such as three-wheelers, tractors, and bullock carts also ply on the route, posing serious safety risks. We have now put up signage banning the movement of two-wheelers, three-wheelers, and tractors, and have imposed a ban on these categories of vehicles within our jurisdiction. Strict action will be taken against the violators."

Greenfield project

The 262-km Bengaluru-Chennai Expressway project is intended to improve connectivity between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. The greenfield project, with an estimated cost of ₹17,000 crore, is designed to reduce travel time from six hours to around four hours.

The expressway is intended to provide an alternative to the route passing through Hosur, Krishnagiri, and Ranipet, which covers about 340 km and takes nearly six hours to travel. With congestion steadily worsening on the existing highway, the need for a quicker and more efficient route has become increasingly urgent.

Only 71 km of the total length has been completed and opened to traffic, primarily in the Karnataka stretch. The remaining sections are still under various phases of construction. Originally scheduled for completion by August 2025, the deadline has now been extended till June 2026 due to construction delays.

Akram Pasha takes charge as KSRTC managing director

Ramachandran R., managing director of BMTC, with Akram Pasha, managing director of KSRTC, in Bengaluru on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Senior IAS officer Akram Pasha assumed charge as the new managing director of the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) on Wednesday.

Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) managing director Ramachandran R., IAS, who has been holding concurrent charge of KSRTC handed over the charge to Mr. Pasha. The previous MD, V. Anbukumar, was transferred and posted as Secretary, Housing Department on June 2.

Mr. Pasha has served in key positions such as Commissioner of the Karnataka Housing Board and the Labour Department. He has also held the post of Deputy Commissioner in Hassan and Kolar districts.

His appointment comes at a time when KSRTC and other transport corporations in Karnataka are facing a significant financial crunch.

'Levying fee for building plan sanction based on guidance value of property is illegal'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a major setback for the State government, the High Court of Karnataka set aside amendments to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Act to allow levy of fees for building licence/plan sanction, issuance of completion and occupancy certificates, and ground rent, based on "guidance value or market value" of the properties.

Saying that services related to sanction of plan for building construction rendered by the BBMP has nothing to do with the market value of the property or any logic in linking rates with the guidance value of the properties in different areas, notified by the government under the Karnataka Stamp Act for collection of stamp duty, the court said that at best, a uniform rate can be levied depending upon the size of the plot and the extent of constructions.

Justice R. Devdas delivered the judgment while disposing of petitions filed by Sapthagiri Shelters, Bengaluru, and several individual owners of the properties and land developers. The petitioners had questioned the amendments made to the BBMP Act and the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act to levy various fees based on the :guidance value" of the properties.

The court in 2001 set aside these fees saying that such fees cannot be levied through bylaws while giving the liberty to the government to amend the relevant Act and the Rules and the government in 2024 amended the Act.

'Manifestly arbitrary'

However, Justice Devdas said that amendments were illegal as the government again linked the fees with the "guidance/market value" of the properties.

Meanwhile, the court also declared as illegal the linking of the fee, leviable under Rule 37-A of the Karnataka Planning Authority Rules, 1965, to the 'market/guidance value' for development of building or land or sanction for sub-division of plot or layout of Private Street under the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Authority Act.

However, the court gave liberty to the government and the BBMP to re-fix a standard fees after collecting empirical data.

Consequently, the court quashed the demands raised by the BBMP from the landowners for payment of these fees based on the amendment, and advised the BBMP "to come out with a scheme for one time settlement and settle the levy and collect the fee generally acceptable to the citizens of Bengaluru as this would also augment the present situation."

Power supply to be affected

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Residents and businesses have been advised to prepare for scheduled power outages from June 13 to 15, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., owing to maintenance work on the Sarjapur-Attibele 66/11 kV Line.

According to a release by Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (Bescom) , following areas will be affected: Attibele: Yadavanahalli, Ichanguru, Vaddarapalya, Attibele Industrial Area, Balagaranahalli, Manchanahalli, Attibele Town, Mayasandra, Dasanapura, Harohalli, and surrounding areas will be affected by the power disruption.

Anekal: Anekal Town, Kavala Hosahalli, Gowrenahalli, Haldenahalli, Hompalagatta, Choodenahalli, Honna Kalasapura, Karpuru, Byagadadenahalli, Kada Agrahara, Chikkahagade, and other areas.

'Role of youth is vital in anti-drug campaign'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot emphasised the critical role of youth in combating drug abuse, calling them the pillars of society capable of driving positive change.

Speaking at the inauguration of the 'YUVA Shuddhi Abhiyan', aligned with International Yoga Day and International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking International Day Against Drug Abuse, on Thursday, he urged young people to actively participate.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Thanjavur Venkataiah Chandrasekhar Chetty R/at No.101, 1st Floor, Swathantra Nagar, Basvanapura Main Road, Opp Peniel School Road, Beside Swapna Apartment-2, Ayyappa Nagar, K.R. Puram, Virgonagar, Bengaluru -560049 do hereby solemnly state that, we have changed our Son's name from **PREM SAI THANJAVOOR CHANDRASEKHAR** (Old Name) to **PREMSAI THANJAVUR** (New name). We further state that, we will continue his new name **PREMSAI THANJAVUR** for all future purpose vide affidavit dated 12.06.2025 sworn to Notary.

Canara Bank
A Government of India Undertaking
ARM Branch - II, 2nd Floor, Circle Office, Spencer Towers, No. 86, MG Road, Bangalore - 560001, Ph No. 080-25310099, 080-25310181, E-mail - cb6298@canarabank.com

CORRIGENDUM

Refer to our E-Auction Sale Notice dated 06.06.2025 of M/s Technospark Industries India Pvt Ltd, published in "THE HINDU and UDAYAKALA on 07.06.2025 that **read the Reserve Price of the property mentioned in Sl No 1 as Rs.10,64,00,000/- and the EMD amount as Rs.1,06,40,000/- instead of Rs.10,08,00,000 and the EMD amount as Rs.1,00,80,000/-. Rest all terms and conditions will remain same.**

Place: Bangalore Sd/- Authorised Officer
Date: 12.06.2025 Canara Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients intended to purchase the schedule property from Sri. Hanumantharayappa P., S/o. Sri. Papanna, Aged about 71 years, R/at : Arasanahalli Peddanahalli Village, Uganavadi Post, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District.

If any body has got any charge, lien, interest, or any type of objections, in respect of title of the schedule property they should come forth with supporting documentary evidence within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice. In the event of no such claim, taking as no such claim, my client shall proceed with the said transaction.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Portion of the Immovable Agriculture Property bearing Survey No.104/1, measuring 20 guntas, situated at Arasanahalli Peddanahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural Dist., bounded with

East by : 25 Feet Common Road carved out of Sy.No. 104/1, **West by :** Shankar's Land, **North by :** Remaining portion of Sy.No. 104/1 Hanumantharayappa's land, **South by :** Remaining portion of Sy.No. 104/1 Hanumantharayappa's land.

Portion of land taken out from the Immovable Agriculture Property bearing Survey No.104/1, measuring 1 acre 26 guntas, situated at Arasanahalli Peddanahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural Dist., bounded with

East by : Mudhamma and Ramesh Land, **West by :** Shankar's Land, **North by :** Muniyappa's Land, **South by:** S.M. Krishnappa Land.

Address : **K.N. HARISH BABU,** Advocate, No.436, 15th Main Road, Muneshwara Block, Bangalore-560026.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

SALEM DIVISION (SIGNAL & TELECOM BRANCH)

E-Tender Notice No. SA-SG-120-I-OT-04-2025 Date : 11.06.2025

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer / Southern Railway/ Salem Division, Salem - 636005 for and on behalf of the President of India invites **ONLINE** tenders for the following works as per tender notice given in our e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in.** The tenderer(s) / contractor(s) intending to apply for e-tender for **WORKS** in Salem Division, need to get enrolled in the e-tender portal **"www.ireps.gov.in"** and only online tenders will be accepted. Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) & Tender Document Cost (TDC) in respect of e-tendering, should be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR) will not be accepted as EMD for tenders invited on IREPS (e-tender portal).

Tender Notice No.	**SA-SG-120-I-OT-04-2025**
Name of work : Salem Division - Signal and Telecommunication work in connection with various Track and allied Engineering works over Salem Division.	
Approximate cost of the work	**Rs. 3,16,61,002.52**
Earnest Money Deposit	**Rs. 308300.00**
Cost of tender form including tax : Nil	
Eligibility criteria for similar single work previously executed : Applicable	
Period of Completion in months : 12 months	
Tender closing date and time : 04-07-2025 at 15.00 hrs.	

Note : Details of approximate value of tender, tender form cost, EMD & location are given on the e-portal "**www.ireps.gov.in'**
For other Details, terms and conditions, the tenderers are advised to refer to the Tender documents which are available at "**www.ireps.gov.in"** website

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer,
Southern Railway, Salem - 636 005

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that our client **Mr. Kishore Rao**, presently residing at 4107, Thornapple Street, Chevy Chase, Maryland USA 20815, also at: C/o Mr. Shiva Kumar, No.2393/F, 1st A Main, RPC Layout, Hampi Nagar, Vijayanagar, Bangalore - 560 040, has lost the Original documents for detailed herein, pertaining to the property bearing site No. 5, carved out of the larger land bearing Survey No. 11/2, situated in Byatarayanapura Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, falling with the administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Ward 07 –Byatarayanapura, and measuring East to West: 21.4 meters (70.2 feet) and North to South: 46.03 meters (154.5 feet) in all measuring 990.82 square meters or 10,665 square feet, having BBMP Khatha No., 1182/11/2/5 (Ref No. W7/KTR/174/23-24) and E-Khatha No: **6383477615** ; 1. **Sale Deed dated 23.12.1971**, registered at sub registrar office of Bangalore North Taluk in Book **22** Vol **2799** at Pages **146-150** document bearing No. **3238/71-72** situated in Byatarayanapura Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk; 2. **Sale Deed dated 03.02.1983** registered at sub registrar office of Bangalore North Taluk in Book I Vol **3552** at Pages **203-207** document bearing No. **7655/81-82** 3. **Official Memorandum** bearing No. **B.Dis.ALN.SR.310/76-77** dated **09.06.1977**, issued by the Deputy Commissioner Bengaluru and 4. **Official Memorandum** bearing No. **ALN 18/76-77** dated **04.07.1977**, issued by the Tahsildar. **Lost Article Reports bearing No. 1646279/2025 and 1641144/2025** has been filed before the Bengaluru City Police in this regard on **06.06.2025**. If any person/s find/s the above-mentioned documents, he/she/they is/are requested to hand over the same to the undersigned.

E. Suhail Ahmed
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info@trialbase.in

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
Syndicate
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office : Bangalore

E-AUCTION Sale of Properties on 30.06.2025

Last date of EMD : 27.06.2025

ARM – I Branch, 2nd Floor, No. 86, Spencers Tower, M.g. Road, Bangalore – 560001. Ph No. : 080 25310066. E-Mail – cb2366@canarabank.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described imovable propeties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM Branch-1,** Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **30.06.2025** at **10:30 AM to 11:00 AM,** through E-Auction under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

For details with regard to E-Auction & digital signature please contact the service provider **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited, Helpdesk Number : 8291220220, Website: https://baanknet.com/**

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **27.06.2025 5.00 pm.**

(Rs. in lacs)

Sl.No.	Name and address of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Description of the immovable assets	Total Dues Possession Type	a. Reserve Price b. EMD c. Incremental Bid	Inspection Date & Time
1.	**1. M/s.Khoday Silk Streams** No.25, Old No.29, 3rd floor, Behind Reddy Petrol Bunk, N S Iyengar Street, Seshadripuram Bengaluru-560020 **2.Smt. Padma Bai** **3.Sri Suresh S Khoday** No.2,3 are at : No.23, 2nd Main, 5th Block Seshadripuram, Kumara Park West Bangalore 560 020. **4.Sri Eshwara K N** No.24, New No.24/5, 4th Floor, Jayamahal Road, Jayamahal Extn Bangalore-560094	Flat @ Fourth Floor of Residential property site no.24, as per bifurcation new no.24/5,PID NO. 92-15-24/5 in the 4TH floor situated at Jayamahal road, Jayamahal extension BBMP WARD NO. 92, Measuring One Fifth (1/5TH) UDS in the land measuring East to west: 60 feet, North to south: 80 feet which work out to 960 Sq.ft. right in the land along with entire fourth (4th) floor with Super Built up area of 2400Sq ft owned by Mr Eshwara K N and bounded by: **East:** Site no 24/1 measuring on that side 80ft, **West :** Jayamahal road measuring on that side 80ft. **North :** Main road measuring on that side 60ft. And **South :** Government quarters measuring on that side 60 ft. **Coordinates of the property Latitude 13.001334, Longitude 77.594602**	**Rs. 11,93,44,327.59** as on **11.06.2025** with further interest and cost there on	**a) ₹ 222.03 b) ₹ 22.21 c) ₹ 1.00**	**18.06.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM.** with Prior Appointment with The Authorized Officer

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.08025310066, 6381952519, 9966397756, 8098415841 and 9039609346 during office hours on any working day.

Place: Bangalore
Date : 12.06.2025

Sd/- Authorized Officer, Canara Bank

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, NARSHIMMYA Munivenkattappa S/o Munivenkattappa, R/a Kammasandra Village, Uthnoor Post, Kolar Taluk and District, Karnataka-563101 have changed my name to Narasimhaiah Munivenkattappa vide affidavit dt: 21.05.2025 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, B'lore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Prathiksha, D/o Basavaraj Kabbin, aged 15 years R/at No.44, 4th Cross, Garden Villas, VTC, Nagabhavi, Bangalore – 560072, Karnataka, given name was mentioned as Prathiksha in my Indian Passport (M4496722) records and some other related records. But I am changing my given name as Prathiksha B and surname as Kabbin. Hence my given name **Prathiksha** and **Prathiksha B** are identical given names mentioning only one person i.e., me and hence binding me only. My given name is **Prathiksha B** and my surname is **Kabbin**. This is correct and true. Vide affidavit dated: 9th June 2025. Sworn before the Advocate & Notary K.C. Gowthami, Bangalore.

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Study finds how genes influence symptoms of mental disorders

A study has uncovered genes that govern how sensitive one is about their environment, levels of which can influence symptoms they present of mental disorders. An international team of researchers analysed nearly 10,900 pairs of identical twins from 11 studies and examined how changes in sensitivity to environment can influence one's chances of presenting symptoms of ADHD, autism, anxiety and depression, psychosis and neuroticism. PTI

May was world's second warmest on record, EU scientists say

The world experienced its second warmest May since records began this year, a month in which climate change fuelled a record-breaking heatwave in Greenland, scientists have said. Last month was Earth's second-warmest May on record – exceeded only by May 2024 – rounding out the northern hemisphere's second-hottest March-May spring on record, the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service said in a monthly bulletin. REUTERS

Experts slam Kennedy's move to fire independent CDC advisers

U.S. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s dismissal of an independent panel of experts citing the goal of restoring trust in vaccines could undermine confidence in those available now, putting Americans at risk of preventable infectious diseases, health experts have said. Mr. Kennedy had said he was firing all members of the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices at the CDC. The AMA has passed a resolution asking for an investigation. REUTERS

India well-equipped to contain new COVID variants: ex-ICMR DG

The emergence of the XFG variant is part of the SARS-CoV-2 virus's natural evolution, said Balram Bhargava, former Director-General of the Indian Council of Medical Research and former Secretary of the Department of Health Research. He said India was well-positioned to detect and contain emerging variants swiftly due to the widespread deployment of rapid molecular diagnostic platforms. "Vigilance is critical now, and not panic," he said. ANI

Science behind right AC temperature

The Union Ministry of Power has indicated that it is considering restricting the temperature range of new air conditioners to between 20 degrees and 28 degrees Celsius; studies indicate that apart from energy saving benefits, there are also public health benefits to support case for a fixed temperature range

Vasudevan Mukunth

The Union Ministry of Power has said it is mulling restricting the temperature range of new air conditioners (ACs) in the country to between 20 degrees and 28 degrees Celsius.

In a press conference on Tuesday, Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar told presspersons the restriction would apply to ACs in households, hotels, and cars.

The idea is not new: in 2018 and then in 2021, R.K. Singh, then the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Power had said the Ministry was speaking to AC manufacturers about labelling ACs with the optimum temperature setting and fixing the default temperature setting at 24 degrees. At the time the Ministry had also said in a statement that it would consider instituting the default setting following an awareness campaign for four to six months and after public consultations.

"Every 1 degrees Celsius increase in the air conditioner temperature setting results in saving of 6% of electricity consumed," Mr. Singh said. He added that the 24 degrees Celsius recommendation had come from a Bureau of Energy Efficiency study and that should all consumers adopt the setting, the country would save 20 billion units of electricity per year. The BEE had said at the time that the total connected load due to ACs would be 200 gigawatt by 2030.

Aside from calling the 18-21 degrees Celsius range "uncomfortable", the Minister said it was "unhealthy". Indeed, many studies have found that the blood-pressure load rises quickly below 18 degrees Celsius, with vasoconstriction and sympathetic activation being found to drive the systolic blood pressure up by about 6-8 mm (Hg) and long-term exposure translating to higher risk of hypertension. Separate trials involving children in Japan, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom have also found they breathed easier when they slept with ACs set to more than 18 degrees Celsius.

In 2018, the International Energy Agency estimated there were 2 billion ACs in use around the world and that the number of residential units tripled from 2000 to 2022, to 1.5 billion. The agency also said that as of 2022, 43% of people in the Asia Pacific region were still in need of additional cooling.

An AC works by pumping heat from one space to another. Heat naturally flows from warmer to cooler areas, which means continuously moving it in the other direction – e.g. from a room at 30 degrees Celsius to an environment at 35 degrees Celsius – requires work. This work is represented in the AC's power consumption.

Beating the heat: People purchasing air conditioners during the summer in Patna. The power-cost of ACs is not the only reason to want to steer clear of lower temperatures. ANI

The typical vapour-compression cycle of an AC uses a liquid called a refrigerant to transport the heat. A device called the evaporator holds the refrigerant at just about its boiling point. When a fan blows air in the room over the evaporator, the refrigerant boils by absorbing heat from the air. The air also becomes dehumidified as moisture in the air condenses on the evaporator and drains away. Next, it flows to the compressor as a superheated vapour. The compressor compresses it by 3-4x, in the process heating it to about 90 degrees Celsius. This is the step during which the AC consumes most of its power.

The high-pressure superheated vapour then moves to the condenser, where it naturally loses its heat to the environs while turning back into a liquid. Since its pressure is still high, it passes through an expansion device that turns it into a low-pressure liquid-vapour mix close to its boiling point, and sends it back to the evaporator.

The temperature range in which a refrigerant takes up and releases heat most efficiently is the range within which the AC is also said to be most efficient.

Risks of low temperatures

The power-cost of ACs is not the only reason to want to steer clear of lower temperatures. Numerous studies have ascertained that save for the small fraction of people that need access to cold spaces, the general population can develop higher risks of hypertension, asthma, and respiratory infections when exposed to living spaces under 18 degrees Celsius.

Researchers have generally treated 'comfort' to be the point where a body's core temperature (around 37 degrees Celsius) and mean skin temperature can be kept constant without any sweating or shivering and when no more than about 10% of the occupants of a space say they feel too hot or too cold (called the predicted mean vote). The ASHRAE-55 and ISO 7730 standards begin from this thumb rule before adjusting 'comfort' according to the clothing, cultural sensibilities, and the prevalent types of cooling in different parts of the world.

The body at rest dissipates around 100 W of metabolic heat. Around 20 to 24 degrees Celsius, a lightly clothed person can shed that heat by radiation and convection alone without breaking a sweat or restricting skin blood flow. ASHRAE-55 allows the zone to rise roughly 0.3 degrees Celsius for every 1 degrees Celsius rise in the mean ambient temperature, up to about 30 degrees to 32 degrees Celsius.

Some sleep studies have converged on 16-19 degrees Celsius for healthy young and middle-aged adults. Cool air reportedly helps the core temperature dip by about 1 degrees Celsius, quickening sleep onset and ensuring deep sleep is stable. Infants and older adults may prefer the upper limit of around 19 degrees Celsius because their bodies' thermoregulation is less robust.

This said, the WHO's 2018 Housing and Health Guidelines recommend using 18 degrees Celsius as the minimum safe living-room temperature in temperate or cooler climates because cardiovascular and respiratory admissions were found to climb steeply below that threshold. One cross-sectional study published in 2014 reported a strong correlation between indoor temperatures under 18 degrees Celsius and 9% of the "population attributable risk" of hypertension. Similarly, a 2016 study used data from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing 2012-2013 to compare differences in symptoms between people exposed to living space under and over 18 degrees Celsius. It showed that those living in the colder homes had higher cholesterol and weaker grip strength.

Another longitudinal study the same year said 16% of people over the age of 50 and living in spaces cooled to under 18 degrees Celsius had higher blood pressure, lower vitamin D levels, and poorer lung function.

On the respiratory front: a study published in 2013 involving 309 children and more than 12,000 child-days analysed the effects of each 1 degrees Celsius drop below a mean bedroom temperature of 14-16 degrees Celsius. It revealed a drop in how quickly children could exhale air and lower lung function.

In 2022, researchers in the U.K. reported that people living in persistently "cold homes" were at twice as much risk of new episodes of depression and anxiety, even after adjusting for incomes and baseline mental distress.

The case for moving towards a fixed temperature range on ACs is clear – supported by public health benefits as well as energy savings.

(mukunth.v@thehindu.co.in)

THE GIST

- In 2018, the International Energy Agency estimated there were 2 billion ACs in use around the world and that the number of residential units tripled to 1.5 billion from 2000 to 2022
- Numerous studies have ascertained that save for the small fraction of people that need access to cold spaces, the general population can develop higher risks of hypertension, asthma, and respiratory infections when exposed to living spaces under 18 degrees Celsius
- The WHO's 2018 Housing and Health Guidelines recommend using 18 degrees Celsius as the minimum safe living-room temperature in temperate or cooler climates because cardiovascular and respiratory admissions were found to climb steeply below that threshold

Reclaiming the Golden Hour: how technology can help beat traffic and save lives

V. Viju Wilben

The difference between life and death during a medical emergency often hinges on a single factor: time.

In cities such as Bengaluru, Mumbai and Delhi, traffic congestion routinely swallows precious minutes, undermining even the best medical interventions.

Urban traffic delays are a critical, often overlooked cause of preventable mortality. Multiple studies and audits confirm that delays in ambulance response times are directly linked to increased trauma fatalities and deteriorating patient outcomes. For example: in Delhi, the average ambulance response time has risen to over 17 minutes, up from 13 minutes in 2014, despite an increase in fleet size. A 2021 Comptroller and Auditor General report on Karnataka found that nearly 90,000 crash victims did not receive timely care due to ambulance unavailability and delays, and in 6,000 cases, dispatch itself was delayed by over 30 minutes.

Response time

Nationally, the average ambulance response time ranges from 25 to 30 minutes, with rural areas faring even worse. According to the National Crime Records Bureau, a significant proportion of accident deaths in Indian cities occur in transit, before patients reach a hospital.

The 'Golden Hour' – the first 60 minutes after trauma or acute medical events is critical for survival, particularly in cases of stroke, cardiac arrest, or severe injuries. Yet, in India's congested metros, this window is often lost to traffic

In limbo: Urban traffic delays are a critical, often overlooked cause of preventable mortality. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

To address these systemic delays, hospitals and civic authorities are increasingly turning to technology to optimise emergency medical logistics.

One example of this is GPS-based ambulance tracking: real-time GPS integration allows for dynamic route optimisation, live-tracking, and early hospital alerts. In cities where such systems are implemented, response times have improved. In Chennai and Kolkata, GPS-enabled fleets have reduced response times by 12-15%. Door-to-CT scan times for stroke patients have also improved, enabling quicker thrombolysis and better outcomes.

Signal override system

Another intervention is traffic signal pre-emption: pilot projects have demonstrated that traffic signal override systems – where ambulances automatically trigger green lights – can reduce journey times.

However, only a few urban intersections in India are currently equipped for such digital interventions.

Bike ambulances in gridlocked or narrow urban zones have proven invaluable. Under Karnataka's 'Platinum Ten Minutes' initiative, bike ambulances were first responders in one-third of trauma cases in Bengaluru, with a median arrival time of under six minutes – less than half that of traditional ambulances. Early stabilisation in such cases has been lifesaving.

Despite technological advances, several barriers persist. One of these is inadequate infrastructure: fewer than one in five urban traffic signals can support override systems; most still rely on manual or timer-based controls. This apart, there are technology gaps as well: GPS signal loss, uncharged devices, and software glitches can cause further lapses.

Another barrier is public apathy. Surveys indicate that 62% of ambulance drivers report motorists refusing to yield, and 45% have to personally request drivers to make way at least once a week. Laws on "ambulance right of way" need to be enforced more stringently.

Improving emergency care outcomes in India's cities will require coordinated action.

Time is the most critical element in emergency treatment. When the Golden Hour is lost to traffic, it is not merely a delay - it is often a preventable death.

(Dr. V. Viju Wilben is a consultant, Emergency Department, Narayana Health, Bengaluru)

viju.wilben.dr@narayanahealth.org

BBMP's WhatsApp helpline for waste-related complaints

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has launched a dedicated WhatsApp helpline for citizens to lodge waste-related complaints in the city.

Residents can send waste-related complaints, including blackspots, dumping of construction and debris waste and irregular waste collection, as message on WhatsApp with photographs to the number 9448197197.

Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar during Environment Day celebrations on June 5, had announced a dedicated helpline for waste-related complaints.

A BBMP statement issued on Thursday said that complaints can be lodged on BBMP Helpline 1533, BBMP official website www.bbmp.gov.in and Namma Bengaluru Sahaya App 2.0, apart from the WhatsApp number.

FIR against BBMP officials, contractors

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Rajaji Nagar traffic police have registered an FIR against Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) officials and contractors after a 28-year-old scooter rider was critically injured in an accident on June 4 owing to a bad patch of road.

The victim, Manjunath B.G., was returning home when his scooter skidded and sustained severe injuries while on Dr. Rajkumar Road. He was rushed to a private hospital where he is admitted in the ICU ward.

Based on the complaint, the police have registered a case against BBMP officials and contractors, charging them under Section 125 (endangering human life or personal safety through rashness and negligence) on Monday.

B.G. Ganesh, father of Manjunath, who visited the scene of the accident, alleged, "The patchy road work done by BBMP caused the accident."

UGC serves show-cause notices on seven universities in State

The higher education institutions have been given 30 days time to implement the anti-ragging regulations failing which funds being provided for research projects will be withdrawn

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

It is mandatory for all higher education institutions and universities to implement these regulations and submit appropriate documents to the UGC. FILE PHOTO

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has served show-cause notices on seven public and private universities in the State, including the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) and Bengaluru City University, for not implementing the Anti-Ragging Regulations-2009 to prevent ragging on college and university campuses.

Apart from IIMB and BCU, public universities including Haveri University, Karnataka Janapada Vishwavidyalaya of Gotagodi, Karnataka State Dr. Gangubai Hangal Music and Performing Arts University of Mysuru, and private universities like Sri Sathya Sai University for Human Excellence of Kalaburagi, and KLE Technological University of Hubballi have failed to implement the rules in the State, as per the commission.

The higher education institution and universities have been given 30 days to implement the anti-ragging regulations, failing which funds being provided for research projects will be withdrawn, in addition to de-recognition or withdrawal of affiliation.

"Ragging in all its forms shall be banned in the entire institution, including its departments, constituent units, all its premises (academic, residential, sports, canteen, etc), whether located within the campus or outside, and in all means of transportation of students, whether public or private. The institution shall take strict action against those found guilty of ragging and/or of abetting ragging," states the regulation.

It is mandatory for all higher education institutions and universities to implement these regulations and submit appropriate documents to the UGC. "As you are aware, adherence to the UGC Regulation on Ragging, 2009 is mandatory for all Higher Education Institutions. Failure to comply not only violates UGC guidelines but also compromises student safety, particularly in light of increasing concerns about ragging-related distress and campus hostility," the UGC has said in the notice.

Further, the UGC directed the institutions to submit the anti-ragging compliance and get online undertakings from all students within 30 days from the date of notice.

The IIMB, in its response to the notice, told *The Hindu* that the institution has no tolerance for ragging of any kind. "IIMB has an anti-ragging cell in place. All students are required to submit a declaration that they will not indulge in ragging. All students get several reminders not to indulge in any ragging activities from the administration. Precautionary and oversight measures are also in place. We will follow up with the authorities concerned to have our Institute's name removed from this list."

Seminar tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Parents Association of Persons with Cerebral Palsy and Associated Disorders (PAPCP) is organising a seminar "Together for Tomorrow – A Guide to Special Needs Planning", on Saturday.

The event aims at equipping families and caregivers of individuals with special needs with practical tools and knowledge for long-term care and financial planning.

The seminar will be held at the Mini Bal Bhavan in Jeevan Bima Nagar, from 10 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Interested persons can visit www.papcp.org, call 080-25201616, or email papcp.org@gmail.com.

Kerala, Karnataka agree on animal transfers to zoo

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Forest Minister A.K. Saseendran on Thursday announced an in-principle agreement for the transfer of animals from Karnataka to the Thrissur Zoological Park.

The agreement was finalised during a high-level meeting held in Bengaluru where Mr. Saseendran engaged in discussions with Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar B. Khandre.

The list of animals being considered for transfer includes species such as tiger, leopards, bears, giraffes and gaurs. Mr. Khandre has directed officials of the Zoo Authority of Karnataka to begin preparations for the transfer.

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Rain: One dead another missing in Dharwad dist.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Flooding at an apartment complex in Shirur Park area in Hubballi following heavy rains on Thursday. PTI

Rains continued to lash parts of coastal, south-interior and north-interior Karnataka and two rain-related deaths were reported from Dharwad in the last 24 hours.

According to the Dharwad district administration, a 31-year-old man was killed and two were injured when a tractor overturned in a stream at Hanchinal village in Kundgol taluk on Wednesday. The deceased has been identified as Shivayya Basayya Vatnalmath.

In another incident, 58-year-old Hussainsab Kalasa went missing after the two-wheeler he was riding was washed away in an overflowing drain at Nekar Nagar in Hubballi city on Wednesday. His pillion rider was rescued by passers-by. Meanwhile, red alert has been sounded in Kodagu and Udupi districts for Friday, and both district administrations have declared holiday for anganwadis and schools for the day.

In Malnad region, a heavy downpour affected life in many parts of Shivamogga, Chikkamagaluru and Hassan districts on Thursday. Many trees were uprooted, low-lying areas were flooded and motorists were badly hit by the rains.

The inflow into the reservoirs is on the rise, and the rivers and streams are in spate. The Malnad region received 21.9 mm of rainfall in the 24 hours ending 8.30 a.m. on Thursday, against the normal 9.5 mm.

CM urges Andhra to revoke ban on entry of Totapuri mangoes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has requested N. Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh to withdraw the ban on entry of 'Totapuri mangoes from Karnataka into Chittoor district.

Mr. Siddaramaiah has written a letter to Mr. Naidu in this regard on June 11, stating his "deep concern over an order reportedly issued by the District Collector of Chittoor on June 7, imposing a ban on the entry of Totapuri mangoes from other States into the district."

"I understand that multidisciplinary enforcement teams comprising officials from the revenue, police, forest, and marketing departments have been deployed at the inter-State check-posts adjoining Tamil Nadu and Karnataka to implement this directive. However, this abrupt and unilateral move has caused considerable hardship to mango growers in Karnataka, particularly those in the border regions who cultivate Totapuri mangoes in substantial quantities," the letter said.

"These farmers have long relied on the robust linkages with Chittoor-based processing and pulp extraction units for marketing their produce. The current restriction has disrupted this well-established supply chain and threatens significant post-harvest losses, directly impacting the livelihoods of thousands of farmers. Moreover, actions of this nature, taken without prior consultation or coordination, run contrary to the spirit of cooperative federalism," the Chief Minister further stated in the letter.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, JUN. 13	
RISE 05:53	SET 18:46
RISE 20:45	SET 07:21
SATURDAY, JUN. 14	
RISE 05:54	SET 18:46
RISE 21:34	SET 08:17
SUNDAY, JUN. 15	
RISE 05:54	SET 18:47
RISE 22:19	SET 09:13

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	25
Mysuru	30	20
Bengaluru	29	21

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Spell of light rain and thundershower will occur.

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THE HINDU
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ISSN 0971 - 751X

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Persons forcibly displaced by the end of April this year

122.1 In million. The people forcibly displaced from their homes worldwide has dropped slightly from a record peak but remains "untenably high", the United Nations said on Thursday. A record 123.2 million were displaced at the end of 2024, said UNHCR. AFP

Crop-destroying monkeys in Sri Lanka counted during census

7 In million. Sri Lanka counted more than seven million monkeys during a census of crop-destroying wildlife, authorities said on Thursday. Officials say more than a third of crops are destroyed by wild animals, including elephants, which are protected by law because they are considered sacred. AFP

Number of Congo fever cases recorded in Iraq this year

123 Iraq said on Thursday it has recorded 19 deaths from Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever already this year and urged farmers and abattoir workers to step up precautions when handling livestock. Most cases have been reported in the livestock industry. AFP

India's retail inflation dips to over six-year low in May

2.82 in per cent. Retail inflation dipped to an over six-year low of 2.82 per cent in May mainly due to subdued prices of food items, including vegetables, fruits, and protein-rich items, showed government data released on Thursday. PTI

Pro-Palestinian activists detained ahead of Gaza march

200 Egyptian authorities have detained pro-Palestinian activists in Cairo ahead of a planned international march with the stated aim of breaking Israel's blockade on Gaza, the organisers said Thursday. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Moody's downgrade and U.S. fiscal reality

Moody's downgrade of the U.S. credit rating unfolds without panic, but marks a quiet shift in global fiscal confidence; for India, this moment mirrors deeper fiscal vulnerabilities and calls for urgent reflection, restraint, and financial discipline

ECONOMIC NOTES

Deepanshu Mohan

Matter of discussion: The Indian economy is not immune to global fiscal contractions. GETTY IMAGES

THE GIST

- Moody's downgrade of the U.S. credit rating marks a silent but significant shift, piercing the illusion of fiscal permanence without triggering immediate market panic.
- The world begins to look around, as the dollar's centrality faces quiet challenges and global confidence undergoes a subtle recalibration.
- For India, this moment is a mirror reflecting its own fiscal vulnerabilities, highlighting the urgent need to resist populism and lead with financial discipline.

Amid the chaos set in by churning events and spurring global uncertainty, there is an interesting financial trend that mainstream analysts are perhaps missing. It is well known in economic history how certain shifts don't arrive with the roar of crisis or the panic of a crash, but with the quiet authority of inevitability – which does have a crisis bearing, a fact that often emerges post the aftermath of a shock.

When Moody's Investors Service finally downgraded the credit rating of the Unites States on May 16, there was no dramatic nosedive in the markets, no frantic emergency meetings, no calamitous plunge in investor confidence.

Outwardly, the world barely flinched. Yet beneath that projected calm, a silent but monumental shift occurred – one, we argue, may be remembered not for the noise it made, but for silently indicating the end of a long era of unchallenged U.S. fiscal supremacy.

Foreshadowed for years

What made this moment so striking was not that it happened suddenly, but that it had been forecast in whispers and footnotes of financial discourse for years. For many, this was a long-delayed acknowledgement that the financial world had been indulging in a fiction for far too long.

For most of the post-war period, the U.S. held a rarefied status in the global economy. Its treasury bonds were the closest thing the financial system had to a sacred object, utterly liquid, unfailingly safe, and supported by the full faith and credit of the world's largest and most dynamic economy. This privileged position was not merely a reflection of economic size or military might; it was about trust.

Trust in America's institutions, its political system, its capacity for self-correction, and its willingness, however flawed, to eventually rein in excess.

But the numbers have grown impossible to ignore.

From discipline to dependence

A national debt that once stood at manageable levels has ballooned into a structural liability, breaching 120% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and with U.S. President Donald Trump's latest 'Big New Bill', it's showing no signs of retreat. Policymakers now speak about fiscal sustainability in theoretical terms, while pushing actual solutions further down an ever-narrowing road.

This erosion has been gradual but persistent.

The post-2008 era ushered in a new norm of emergency spending, first to rescue banks, then to stimulate recovery, and later to shield households from the pandemic's chaos.

Each intervention may have been justified in its own moment, but together they forged a long-term addiction of monetarists to deficit finance.

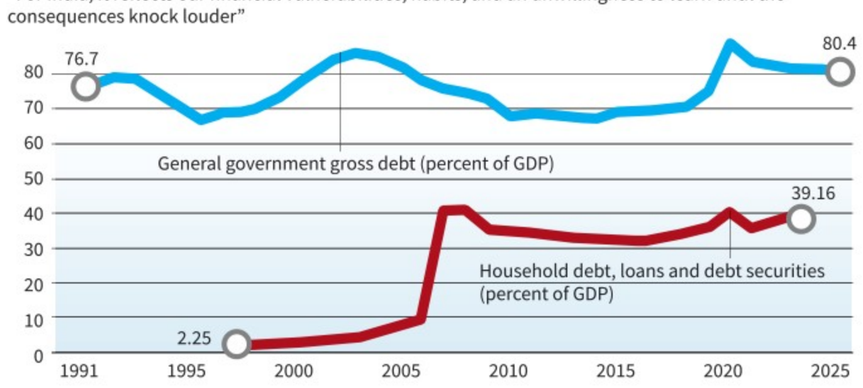
Unlike the post-World War II generation that slashed debt aggressively through a combination of growth and fiscal discipline, today's political class appears paralysed by polarisation and unable to even pass budgets without the threat of shutdown.

The confidence that also once underpinned U.S. borrowing, rooted as much in political stability as in economic fundamentals, has taken a series of subtle but significant blows, culminating in Moody's reluctant decision to strip away its final vote of unquestioning faith.

Quiet warning

The chart shows India's general government gross debt climbing to 80.4% of GDP and household debt rising to 39.16%

"For India, it reflects our financial vulnerabilities, habits, and an unwillingness to learn until the consequences knock louder"



Source: IMF 2023. 2025

Global recalibration

But this downgrade, though symbolic, carries implications that ripple far beyond Wall Street. It comes at a time when global financial allegiances are shifting, when the dollar's centrality in international reserves is already under quiet attack, and when major economies are exploring alternatives to a U.S.-centric system.

Central banks that once loaded up on treasuries with near-religious regularity are now hedging with gold. The euro and other digital currencies are not a distant idea. And while the markets have taken this moment in stride, history teaches us that great financial unravelings rarely begin with panic – they begin with a shrug. The cost becomes visible only later.

It is in this context that the Moody's downgrade must be understood, not as a trigger of immediate collapse, but as a marker of long-building pressure finally piercing the illusion of permanence.

The world has not yet turned away from the dollar, but it has begun to look around. And that moment of looking, that quiet recalibration of confidence, may ultimately prove more consequential than any single rating change.

As the curtain lifts on a new era of fiscal realism, it is worth asking what this development means not just for the U.S., but for countries that have built their own economic strategies around American reliability. The implications for India and the rest of the world are only just beginning to come into focus.

India's fiscal mirror

For India, this moment is less about what happens in Washington and more about what it reveals back home: about our financial vulnerabilities, habits, and unwillingness to learn until the consequences knock louder and harder in a crisis like emergency-response mode.

The Indian economy is not immune to global fiscal contractions.

With general government gross debt hovering near 80% of GDP (IMF 2025), our buffers are limited, especially in an environment of rising global interest rates. As U.S. Treasury yields climb to accommodate perceived risk, investors begin to reprice emerging market debt, and India, despite its growth story, remains vulnerable. This isn't just speculation.

We saw it vividly during the 2013 taper tantrum, when capital outflows pummelled the rupee and exposed our dependence on external financing. A similar shift today would pressure the Reserve Bank of India, complicate deficit management, and test India's ability to shield growth without stoking inflation.

Deeper fiscal malaise

But beyond macro shocks lies a deeper malaise, which is our domestic fiscal culture.

While India dreams big, it continues to drag a ball and chain of fiscal populism.

Successive governments have treated pre-election seasons as open tabs of irrational fiscal exuberance, which come with serious budgetary and fiscal health warnings.

The recent Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections also saw parties tripping over themselves with giveaways, and if Bihar's upcoming polls are anything to go by, we should probably brace for another round of headline-grabbing promises. One suspects the only limit left is creativity.

This fiscal approach comes with compounding ripple effects. High deficits crowd out private investment, distort credit flows, and leave little room for developmental capital. Structural inefficiencies, such as low tax compliance and judicial delays in insolvency cases, to underperforming logistics and lagging education outcomes, further create friction that slows down our momentum when we most need agility. The result is a disconnect.

Globally, the downgrade of the U.S. credit ratings serves as a mirror and a point of deeper financial, fiscal strategic introspection.

Emerging markets with heavy debt burdens and borrowing positions accompanied by low-growth cycles, like Brazil and South Africa too are already facing rising borrowing costs. Even developed economies, including Germany (debt-to-GDP at 62.5%) and Canada (at 110.8%), now operate under closer scrutiny. The message is clear: credibility is no longer inherited; it must be earned and maintained.

For India, this is surely not a moment to panic, but a moment to pause, reflect, and enact fiscal caution and financial discipline. Not because we are in the line of fire, but because the conditions that brought the fire elsewhere are not unfamiliar. The discipline we often defer cannot be delayed forever.

If fiscal credibility is being repriced globally, India must ask whether it wants to wait for markets to demand change or lead that change on its own terms.

Caution and prudence for India

Fiscal caution and prudence are no longer virtues for crisis moments, they are the foundation for resilience in this age of the new normal. Caution for India does not mean a widespread adoption of austerity measures; rather, it means there is more clarity needed in strategy, both in the short, medium-and-long term. It means investing not in headlines, but in core economic foundations: job-creating infrastructure, future-ready skills, and systems that outlast election cycles. It means resisting the seduction of easy populism.

Loan waivers and free power may win votes, but they do little to build the trust that both global capital and citizens themselves seek in a modern state. Structural reforms must move beyond committee reports. Trade resilience must be rooted not in slogans but in strategic diversification.

Above all, Indian policymakers need to recognise that in the age of capital mobility, the loss of credibility is rarely noisy, but always consequentially expensive. While the U.S. has reminded the world that prestige is not protection, India should take the hint early.

(Deepanshu Mohan is Professor and Dean, O.P. Jindal Global University.
Ankur Singh contributed to this column and is a research analyst)

Govt. plans annual art contest for students, general public

A budget of ₹25 crore will be allocated for the event; officials will come up with a plan to hold the competition, possibly in the last week of December when there are a string of holidays, says Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government is planning to hold art competitions for school and college students in Bengaluru, besides the general public, on three days every year, and ₹25 crore will be set aside for this, announced Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar.

Speaking at an event organised to inaugurate the renovated Venkatappa Art Gallery on Thursday, he said that officials will come up with a plan to hold this annual event, possibly in the last week of December when there are a string of holidays. He sought suggestions from the artist community to design this event in a meaningful way.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar at the newly renovated Venkatappa Art Gallery on Kasturba Road, which was inaugurated on Thursday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Minister for Law & Parliamentary Affairs and Legislation and Tourism H.K. Patil said that it was K. Venkatappa who showed the world that any feeling can be expressed through plaster of Paris.

The inauguration of the renovated building comes on the golden jubilee year of the art gallery which was founded in 1975. Brigade Foundation began the renovation and modernisation works of the iconic building, which was in dire states earlier, in March 2024. The renovation included reinforcement of the building's foundation, roof, and walls, while updating exhibition spaces and public amenities. Galleries now showcase works of K. Venkatappa and K.K. Hebbar, alongside five mini galleries featuring rotating exhibitions. The renovated facility also features a restoration room which provides conservators with tools to maintain and restore artworks. Other additions include a sculpture park where emerging artists can display their work.

Speaking at the inauguration, M.R. Jaishankar, executive chairman of Brigade Group and lifetime trustee of Brigade Foundation, said that the importance of well designed spaces for art in urban settings cannot be overstated.

According to him, although the initial budget for the restoration was ₹5 crore, it went up to ₹10 crore by the time the works were over.

The renovated art gallery has now been officially transferred to government authorities for maintenance.

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಉಡುಪಿ
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UCMC/JE/BULD/01/2025-26 Date: 09.06.2025

TERM TENDER CUM AUCTION NOTIFICATION

NO. DMA/2025-26/AUCTION3398

The Tender cum Auction invited from interested Individuals/Agencies/Registered Contractors through **GOK e-procurement platform (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** for the work of **Dismantling of Existing Old Vishweshwarayya Market building located near the old K.S.R.T.C. bus stand within the limits of Udupi City Municipality** including disposing of debris and taking the salvage material on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"** for below mentioned places.

Name of the work: (1) Dismantling of Existing Old Vishweshwarayya Market building located near the old K.S.R.T.C. bus stand within the limits of Udupi City Municipality, Scrap value: **Rs. 6,16,325.00,** Earnest money deposit: **Rs. 15,500.00,** Time limit for completion: **1 Month**

Details Scrap materials (Approx): Materials Name: Existing Old Vishweshwarayya Market building located near the old K.S.R.T.C. bus stand within the limits of Udupi City Municipality

(1) Plinth Area of Building: (a) GF = 725.00Sqm+140.00 Sqm AC Sheet, (b) FF= 870.00 Sqm, Total Area = 1735.00 Sqm

(2) Steel: 7.143 MT, **(3) For concrete work steel recovered qty Dismantled Salvage value:** 10.407 MT **(4) Teak wood Door:** Door: 38, Window: 74, **SALVAGE VALUE = Rs. 6,16,325.00**

(1) Scope of Work: Dismantling of Existing Old Vishweshwarayya Market building located near the old K.S.R.T.C. bus stand within the limits of Udupi City Municipality as directed by the Engineer In-charge of work and taking the scrap materials & disposing off debris, cleaning the premises up to ground level

(2) Eligibility Criteria: The interested individual/ Agencies/ Contractors should have, (a) PAN Card, (b) Adhar Card Address Proof, (c) Turn over Certificate, (d) Similar Nature of Works Dismantling of Building Structure or Similar Work Done certificate.

(3) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): The Bidder/ Tenderer can pay the Earnest money deposit (EMD) in the e-procurement portal using, (a) RTGS, (b) NEFT, (c) OTC payment modes

Calendar of Auction Cum Tender

Calendar of Auction: (1) Auction published date: **09.06.2025,** (2) Date & Time to confirm participation of interest in Auction: **20-06-2025 upto 17.00 hrs**, (3) Start Date for evaluation of Auction: **21-06-2025 @ 17.15 hrs, (4)** Date and Time of Auction: **23-06-2025 from 10.00 hrs to 13.00 hrs**

Sd/- COMMISSIONER
C.M.C UDUPI
ಪಾಸಾಇ/ಸನಿಉ/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/180/25-26 ದಿ: 12.06.2025

CHAMUNDESHWARI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Corporate Office, Procurement Section, CESC, Mysuru-570017.
Phone No.: 0821-2544963 Email: gmproc@cescmysore.org Website: www.cescmysore.org

No. GM(Proc)/CIVIL/DGM(C)/AGM(C)/CO/F-20/2025-26/6376 **Date:** 03.06.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-procurement mode)

General Manager(Procurement), Corporate Office, CESC, Mysuru on behalf of CESC invites tender for the following Civil Engineering Works from eligible contractors.

Sl. No	Indent No.	Name of the Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. In Lakhs)
1	CESC/CO/GM(Proc)/ CIVIL/2025-26/ CVL-43 D:03.06.2025	Construction of Section office building and other allied works at Chikkalavadi. (Kollegala Division, Kollegala Sub-Division)	100.00
2	CESC/CO/GM(Proc)/ CIVIL/2025-26/ CVL-44 D:03.06.2025	Construction of Section office building and other allied works at Madhuvanahalli. (Kollegala Division, Kollegala Sub-Division)	120.00
3	CESC/CO/GM(Proc)/ CIVIL/2025-26/ CVL-45 D:03.06.2025	Construction of Sub-division and Section office building and other allied works at Hanuru. (Kollegala Division)	200.00
4	CESC/CO/GM(Proc)/ CIVIL/2025-26/ CVL-46 D:03.06.2025	Construction of Sub-division and Section office building and other allied works at Yalanduru. (Kollegala Division)	200.00
5	CESC/CO/GM(Proc)/ CIVIL/2025-26/ CVL-47 D:03.06.2025	Construction of Section office building and other allied works at Mambhalli(Kinakanahalli). (Kollegala Division, Yalanduru Sub-division)	100.00
6	CESC/CO/GM(Proc)/ CIVIL/2025-26/ CVL-48 D:03.06.2025	Construction of Compound wall to LM camp at Hirebelaguli section office premises in Holenarasipura Division.	45.00
7	CESC/CO/GM(Proc)/ CIVIL/2025-26/ CVL-49 D:03.06.2025	Construction of Section office building at Mudalahippe. (Holenarasipura Division, Holenarasipura Sub-Division)	116.00
8	CESC/CO/GM(Proc)/ CIVIL/2025-26/ CVL-50 D:03.06.2025	Construction of Section office building at Shanthahalli. (Madikeri Division, Somavarapete Sub-Division)	90.00
9	CESC/CO/GM(Proc)/ CIVIL/2025-26/ CVL-51 D:03.06.2025	Construction of Ladies and Gents toilets at MPL office building premises. (N.R Mohalla Division)	16.00
10	CESC/CO/GM(Proc)/ CIVIL/2025-26/ CVL-52 D:03.06.2025	Construction of Guest house and Dormitory at Chamarajanagara Division office premises.	150.00

The tender documents will be available on or after **26.06.2025** the details regarding participating in the tender can be obtained through e-Procurement portal of Government of Karnataka **http//kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or **help desk +91-8046010000, +91-8068948777** or email address support@eprochelpdesk.com. The last date for submission of bids is **10.07.2025.** The prospective bidders can obtain further details from the office of the undersigned. **Note:** Randamization for the above tenders will be notified at the time of uploading of tenders in E-Procurement portal.

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Form No. 14 (See Regulation 33(2))

DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Sections 25 to 28 of the Recovery of Debts & Bankruptcy Act, 1993 and Rule 2 of Second Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961.

RC No. 378/2022 IN TA No. 617/2017

Karnataka Bank Limited V/s Munibyre Gowda B & Ors

To: (CHB) Karnataka Bank Limited, No. 5006/5011, Lakshmi Complex B. H. Road, Subhash Nagar, Nelamangala Bangalore Rural .
... Certificate Holder

Vs

(CD 1) Munibyre Gowda B., S/o. Byranna, No. 79, Shakaladevanapura, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural.
(CD 2) Manjunath S. M., S/o. Munibyre Gowda, No. 79, Shakaladevanapura, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural.
(CD 3) Harish S. M., S/o. Munibyre Gowda, No. 79, Shakala devanapura, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural.
(CD 4) Raviprakash S. M., S/o. Munibyre Gowda, No. 79, Shakaladevanapura, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural.
(CD 5) Byrahanume Gowda S. M S/o. Munibyre Gowda, No. 79, Shakaladevanapura, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural.
(CD 6) Shivakumar S. M S/o. Munibyre Gowda, No. 79, Shakaladevanapura, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural.
(CD 7) Mangalamma @ Sarvamangala D/o. Munibyre Gowda, No. 79, Shakaladevanapura, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural.
... Defendants/Certificate Debtors

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BANGALORE (DRT-2) in **TA /617/2017** an amount of **Rs.7886200/-** (Rupees Seventy Eight Lakhs Eighty Six Thousands Two Hundred Only) along with pedentellite and future interest @ 15.50% Simple Interest (Yearly) w.e.f. 29.04.2015 till realization in full, and cost has become due against you (Jointly and severally). 2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 and Rules there under. 3.You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing. 4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, for further proceedings. 5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will be liable to pay: (a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/ execution proceedings. (b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processess and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on **14.06.2023**

Sd/- Recovery Officer
Debts Recovery Tribunal , Bangalore (DRT-2)

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER -I/II
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-2
4th Floor, Telephone House Builiding Rajbhavan Road Bangalore - 560001

NOTICE TO LEGAL HEIRS/ REPRESENTATIVES OF CDR NO.4 LATE S. M. RAVI PRAKASH

RC No. 378/2022 IN TA No. 617/2017

Between : Karnataka Bank Limited, Nelamangala Branch, No. 5006/5011, Lakshmi Complex B. H. Road, Subhash Nagar, Nelamangala Bengaluru- 562 123. **... Certificate Holder Bank**

Versus

Sri Munibyre Gowda B., & others ... Certificate Debtors

Legal Heirs of deceased CDR No. 4 Late S. M. Ravi Prakash K.

1. **Mrs. Nagarathna,** (Aged 40 years), W/o. Late S. M. Ravi Prakash, No. No. 79, Shakala devanapura, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural.
2. **Ms. Harshitha ,**(Aged 22 years), D/o. Late S. M. Ravi Prakash, No. No. 79, Shakala devanapura, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural.
3. **Ms. Yuktha** (Aged 19 years), D/o. Late S. M. Ravi Prakash, No. No. 79, Shakala devanapura, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural.

Whereas Recovery Certificate No. 378/2022 in TA No. 617/2017 has been forwarded by Hon'ble Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore to the undersigned for the recovery of debt amounting to **Rs.78,86,200.00** (Rupees Seventy Eight lakhs Eighty Six Thousand Two hundred Only) with subsequent interest and penal interest as stated in RC and the Hon'ble Presiding Officer had sent to the undersigned the certified copy of Recovery Certificate under Sec.19(22) of RDB Act 1993, specifying that the above mentioned amount is to be recoverd along with future interest and cost from the CDs/ Defendants as per RC and whereas the CDR No. 4 Late S. M. Ravi Prakash reported as died leaving behind them as legal heirs/ representative No. 1 to 3 herein above 4 are held liable for the entire dues of the DRC/TRC. The CH Bank stated in its affidavit that as on 31.07.2024 a sum of Rs.1,92,91,030.00 (Rupees One crore Ninety Two Lakhs Ninety One Thousan and Thirty Only) is due from all of you and other defendants i.e. D1, D2, D3, D5, D6 and D7 (already in record).

You are hereby given notice that steps will be taken under all or any of the provisions of **Sec.25 to 28 of RDB Act 1993 read with Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961** to recover the above said amount from you together with future interest payable and the costs charges and expenses incurred in respect of warrants and other processes issued and all other proceedings taken for realizing the specified amount. Therefore you are hereby directed to pay the dues as per the RC (DRC) with future interest, costs and expenses incurred so far and the aforesaid is payable by all of you within 15 days from the date of service of this notice, failing which the matter will be decided as per law in you absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on 29.08.2024.

Sd/- Recovery Officer-2
DRT-2, Bangalore

NB: Attention is invited to Rule 16 of the II Schedule to the Income Tax Act 1961 read with RDDBFI Act 1993 which is reproduced below:

"Rule 16 (1) Where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representatives or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debts Recovery Officer, not shall any Civil Court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money. (2) Where an attachment has been made under this Schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other moneys contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment".

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 BRANCH
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower,
M.G. Road Bangalore-560001
PH: 080-25310066
E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISO TO RULE 8 (6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM Branch-1**, Bengaluru of the **Canara Bank,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is",** and **"Whatever there is"** on **30.06.2025 (10.00 AM to 10.30 AM),** for recovery of **Rs.17,34,58,269.81/- as on 11.06.2025** with further interest and cost thereon due to the ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from **(1) M/s. Navadurga Sea Foods, (Regd and Administrative Office Address)** 1st Cross, No.11/2, R.V. Road, Pattabhiramaiah Street, Mavalli, Bengaluru-560004, **and also at :** Near Cosmo Club, No.1-3-18/20-1, Sathya Krishna Homes, Suryanarayanapuram, Bhimavaram West Godavari, Andrapradesh-534202. **(2) Mr. Adinarayana Setty. B (Partner and Guarantor)** C/o Krishnaiah Shetty. Y. S, No.685, 3rd Main Road, Raghavendra Block, Srinagar, Bengaluru-560050, **And also at :** No.948/949, 13th Main Road, Srinagar, Banashankari, Bengaluru-560050. **(3) Mr. Gudala Sri Hari Gopala Rao, (Partner and Guarantor)** No.7-47, Opp Raghava Rice Mill, P. P. Road, West Godavari, Veeravasaram, Andrapradesh-534245. **(4) Mr. Thyagaraj V R (Partner, Guarantor and Mortgagor), (5) Mrs. Saraswathi. B (Guarantor and Mortgagor)** W/o Mr. R. Bhaskar, **(6) Mr. Bhaskar. R (Guarantor And Mortgagor)** S/o Mr. R. Ramalingam, **(7) Mrs. Shantha. R (Guarantor And Mortgagor)** W/o Mr. Ramalingam, **(8) Mrs. Latha. T. G (Guarantor And Mortgagor),** W/o Mr. Thyagaraj. V. R, **(9) Mrs. Prema. R (Guarantor And Mortgagor), All are residing at:** No.12/91-2, 1st Main Road, New Kalappa Block, Ramachandrapuram, Srirampuram, Behind Devi Theatre, Bengaluru-560021. **(10) Mrs. Prema. R (Guarantor And Mortgagor)** W/o Mr. G. Ramesh, No.8/1, 1st Main Road, New Kalappa Block, Ramachandrapuram, Srirampuram, Bengaluru-560021.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **27.06.2025 - 5.00 pm.**

(₹.In Lakhs)

Lot	Description of the immovable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD	Increment al Value
1	All that part and parcel of the residentially converted vacant land bearing Sy. No 14/2 carved out of Sy No 14 measuring 32.5 guntas of Dasarahalli Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk duly converted for residential purposes vide Official memorandum bearing No. ALN SR (S.A) 78/95-96 dated 04.11.1995 issued by Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, presently bearing BBMP Khata No 27/14/2 within the limits of BBMP Ward No 6, Thanisandra ,Bangalore belonging to Sri. V R Thyagaraj, Sri. R Bhaskar, Smt. Latha T G, Smt. Saraswathi, Smt. R Shantha and Smt. R Prema. Boundaries as follows: East: Site No- 41, 42,43 and 44 in Sy. No 13/2, Swimming Pool and Club House, West: Site No. 8, 9,10,11,12, and Road in Old Sy. No.14, New Sy. No. 14/1, North: Site No. 38, carved out of old Sy. No. 14, New Sy. No. 14/1, South: Remaining portion of Sy. No. 14 measuring 10 guntas Coordinates of the property. **Coordinates of the property: Latitude- 13.051932, Longitude- 77.613010**	₹.2212.06	₹.221.21	₹.1.00

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.08025310066, 6381952519, 9966397756, 8098415841 and 9039609346 during office hours on any working day.

Date : 12.06.2025
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

Karnataka Bank Ltd.
Your Family Bank. Across India.

Asset Recovery Management Branch,
Karnataka Bank Building, First Floor, Ward No.29,
Maraluru Extension, Sadashivanagar, Tumakuru-572105
Phone: 0816-2294905/2294906
E-Mail: tum.arm@ktkbank.com
Website: www.karnatakabank.com
CIN: L85110KA1924PLC001128

E-AUCTION

NOTICE OF SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES ON 05.07.2025

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) / Rule 9 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s), Guarantor(s), Mortgagor(s) & Co-obligant(s) that the below described immovable property/ies mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Constructive Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer (details mentioned below), will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", "Whatever there is" on 05.07.2025** at the below mentioned timings for recovery of dues with further interest, penal charges and costs thereon due to the **Karnataka Bank Ltd.**

The details are as under: Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposits details are as under & the Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before **04.07.2025 at 4.00 pm** through online payment to the Account No. details of which are given below or by way of DD favouring **Karnataka Bank Ltd.,**

Sl. No.	Name of the Borrower/s/Mortgagor/s/Guarantor/s/ Co-Obligant/s Loan Account No.	Balance O/S Rs. Future Interest From + penal charges & Costs	Possession Date Possession Type	Description of the Propertyies	Reserve Price (Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs.	Auction Time	Increment al Value of the Bid	Branch Name & Account Details for Remitting EMD/ IFSC Code
1	**(1) Mrs.Kenchamma** W/o Late Sri Doddaappaih **(2) Mrs.Muninarayanamma** W/o Mr.Anjanappa **(3) Mrs.Bhavani** W/o Mr.Lakshmi Narayan **(4) Mr.Narasimhappa B T** S/o Late Sri Doddaappaih, **(5) Mr.Devaraja D** S/o Late Sri Doddaappaih **(6) Kum.Annapurna** D/o Mr.Narasimhappa B T (7) **Kum.Nandakumari** D/o Mr.Narasimhappa B T, [No.6 & 7 are minors represented by natural guardian No.4] Mr-Narasimhappa B T] **(8) Kum.Vidyashree** D/o Mr.Devaraja D **(9) Kum.Naveen Kumar** S/o Mr.Devaraja D **(10) Kum.Kavya** D/o Mr.Devaraja D, [No.8 to 10 being minors represented by natural guardian No.5] Mr.Devaraja D] **No.1, 4, 6 & 7 are residing at ;** No.66, Bhavapura Village, K Sathyawara Post, Sulibele Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural - 562129. **No.2 & 3 are residing at ;** 1st Cross, 1st Block, Ayyappa Nagar, Krishnarajapura, Bengaluru - 560 036. **No.5 and 8 to 10 are residing at ;** No.63, 3rd Cross, Mahadevapura Dinnur, Kadugodi Plantation, Bengaluru -560067. **Loan A/c No.: PSTL A/c No.3377001800020801**	**Rs.7,88,115.80 [Rupees Seven Lakh Eighty Eight Thousand One Hundred Fifteen and Paisa Eighty Only] and Future Interest From 16.01.2024 + Penal Charges + Costs.**	**24.02.2025 & Constructive**	All that part and parcel of residential property measuring 1,024 sq.ft. bearing Katha No. 60, E-Khatha No.150300401100720075 together with building constructed thereon situated at Bhavapura Village, Doddaaralagere GP, Sulibele Hobli, Hoskote Block, Bangalore Rural District. belonging to 1)Smt.Kenchamma, 2) Smt. Muninarayanamma, 3) Sri.Narasimhappa.B.T, 4)Mr.Devaraja.D, 5) Kum. Annapurna, 6) Kum.Nandakumari (No.5&6 are minors represented by their natural guardian father Mr. Narasimhappa. B.T) 7) Kum. Vidyashree, 8) Kum. Naveen Kumar, 9) Kum. Kavya (No.7,8 and 9 are minors represented by their natural guardian father Mr.Devaraj D.) **Bounded by : East:** Property of Gopalappa, **West:** Own Property, **North:** Property of Gejalappa, **South:** Road.	**Rs. 23,50,000/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Fifty Thousand only)**	**Rs. 2,35,000/- (Rupees Two Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Only)**	**10.30 AM to 10.45 AM**	**Rs. 25,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Branch : Hoskote A/c No: 3373500200004101 IFSC:KARB0000337**

(The Borrower/s/Mortgagor/s/Guarantor/s/ Co-Obligant/s attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset).

This Notice shall also serve as Notice under Sub Rule (6) of Rule 8 / Sub Rule (1) of Rule 9 of Security Interest Enforcement Rules-2002 to the Borrower/Guarantors)

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to link in Karnataka Bank's Website i.e. https://karnatakabank.com.

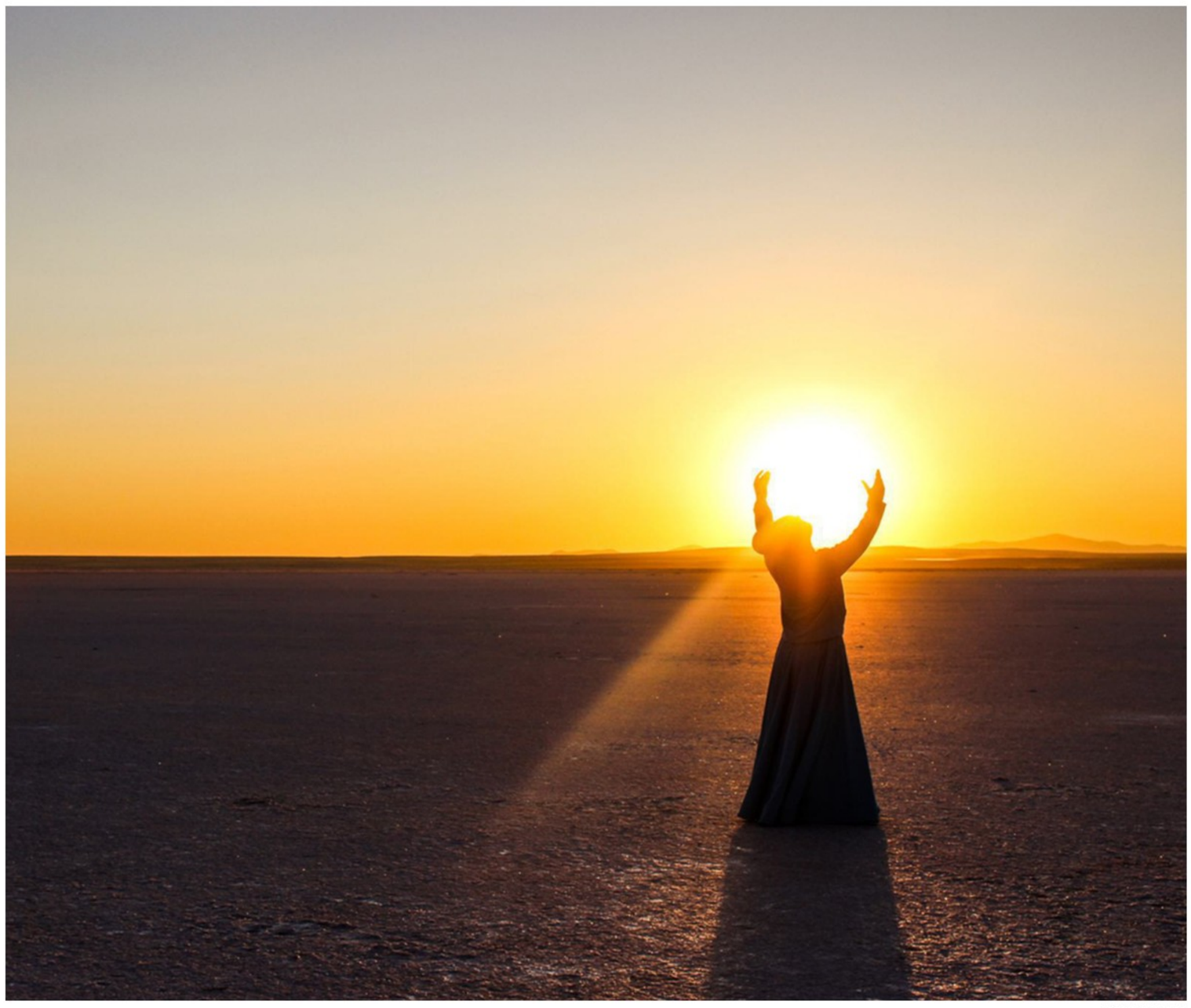
The E-auction will be conducted through portal https://www.auctionbazaar.com/ on **05.07.2025 at above mentioned time** with unlimited extension of 05 minutes. The intending bidder is required to register their name at **https://www.auctionbazaar.com/** and get the user Id and password free of cost and get training i.e. online training on E-auction (tentatively on **04.07.2025**) from **M/s ARCA EMART PVT LTD**(Known by their **website: www.auctionbazaar.com**) **Contact No. :** 8885035382, E-mail : **contact@auctionbazaar.com and disposal.karnataka@auctionbazaar.com.**

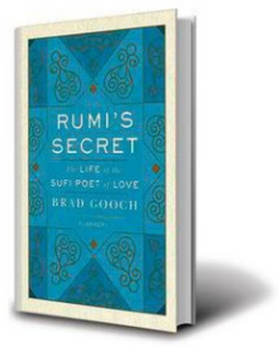
Date : 10.06.2025
Place: Tumakuru

Sd/- Chief Manager & Authorised Officer,
Karnataka Bank Ltd.

M BG-BGE

BIBLIOGRAPHY





GETTY IMAGES

All you need is love: Why Rumi lives inside everyone in times of gloom

The Sufi poet is the bestselling author in many parts of the world, and books on this 13th century advocator of love keep coming; writers like Brad Gooch point out that Rumi made claims for a religion of love that went beyond organised faith, and therein lies the reason for his universal appeal

Ziya Us Salam

There may not be a Shams around to guide us and lend a helping hand, but there is a bit of Rumi inside each one of us. He resides in every heart that's loved and lost, and understands that a man who knows no love knows no sorrow. He resides in a heart that confides, "I once had a thousand desires but in my one desire to know you, all else melted away."

Each heart reverberates to Rumi. Ask Coleman Barks, whose works on Rumi can light up the gloomiest of evenings besides filling up your bookshelf. As Robert Bly once wrote, recommending Barks' *The Essential Rumi*, "Coleman Barks has brought an immense gift to the study of Islamic poetry. His versions, witty and touched by Southern courtesy, support an exuberant Rumi never achieved before in English."

Room for conversation

A few pages into the book, and one realises there is a bit of Rumi to take away from each poem. For instance, 'The Far Mosque', where Rumi, alluding to Suleiman, one of the prophets of Islam, writes, "The place that Solomon made to worship in, called the Far Mosque, is not built of earth and water and stone, but of intention and wisdom and mystical conversation and compassionate action/Every part of it is intelligence and responsive to every other."

Called Jelaluddin Balkhi by the Afghans, where he was born in 1207, the fear of the rampaging Mongols forced his family to migrate to Konya in Turkey. The son of a well-respected theologian father, Rumi was initially an orthodox scholar of Islam. It all changed with a chance meeting with a wandering dervish, Shams of Tabriz. The two became inseparable.

Even as a debate rages about the nature of their relationship, most agree that Shams did become Rumi's mentor. So much so that even after Shams was probably murdered, Rumi continued to believe that Shams was now part of him, and when he wrote his poetry, it was Shams writing through him.

The making of a mystic

Brad Gooch, an authority on Rumi, writes in *Rumi's Secret: The Life of the Sufi Poet of Love*, "of the disruptive appearance of Shams" who "taught him to whirl and transformed him from a respectable Muslim preacher into a poet and a mystic". Such indecipherable love led to millions reading Rumi to turn a mirror to their inner selves. A Rumi reader is an explorer, a seeker. Rumi, writes Gooch, "made claims for a religion of love" that went beyond organised faith.

Rumi was a font from which everyone drank and came back richer, wiser. Today, he is the best-selling poet in the U.S. and his words have soothed musicians like Madonna and Chris Martin during challenging times in their lives with the latter often quoting one of Rumi's poems, "This being human is a guest house/Every morning a new arrival/ A joy, a depression, a meanness/some momentary awareness comes/ as an unexpected visitor."

Unsurprisingly, the Rumi books keep coming. Noted author-translator Farrukh Dhondy has just penned *Rumi: A New Selection* (HarperPerennial), wherein he explains the reason for the abiding love for Rumi. Dhondy writes in a book itself deserving of much love and re-reading, "The sales of his books in American translation surpass those of William Shakespeare, John Keats, T.S. Eliot...Why? Rumi's great work, the 'Masnavi', is sometimes dubbed 'the Quran in verse'. It certainly is devoted to Islam, but to a version and interpretation of Islam with a long and widely adopted history loosely referred to in all its variations as 'Sufism'."

Dedicated to the divine

Interestingly, most of his ardent fans are not followers of Islam. They come to Rumi for mystical self-realisation. And for love. Dhondy analyses, "Rumi's verse doesn't celebrate explicit Romeo and Juliet interaction. The 'love' it celebrates can never be interpreted as the desperate emotion one has for the girl next door. The love expressed in Rumi's works, the six volumes and twenty-four thousand verses of the Masnavi, his Diwan-i-Shams dedicated to his inspiration and 'lover' Shams-u-Tabrez, and in his discourses and lectures, is a dedication to the divine....When Rumi openly professes 'love' for his inspiration and spiritual partner, Shams, it's not an expression of a gay relationship, but rather a metaphor for a divine bond, a union of individual souls in a universal soul."

Not known to many, Shams himself had great respect for Rumi's acumen, learning and intellect. And Shams, as Dhondy quotes Franklin Lewis, "specifically says that there was no question of him being the master and Rumi the pupil".

Let the scholars agree to disagree; the joy is in discovering Rumi all over again, with each new book, each new author. Whether one is seeking love or languishing without it, Rumi's words provide a fine accompaniment. As disclosed in *Rumi's Little Book of Life* by Maryam Mafi and Azima Kolin, "Do not grieve over past joys, be sure they will reappear in another form. A child's joy is in milk and nursing but once weaned, it finds new joy in bread and honey... In sleep when the soul leaves the body you may dream of yourself as a tall cypress or as a beautiful rose, but be warned, my friend, all these phantoms dissolve into thin air once the soul returns to the body".

Of dreams, love, past and present, body and soul, Rumi's works encapsulate them all. Never quite like a Persian miniature garden, more like a walk in the wilds, full of the joy of the unseen.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

W.B. Yeats was born on this day in 1865. Here is a quiz on one of the foremost figures of 20th century English literature

Sindhu Nagaraj

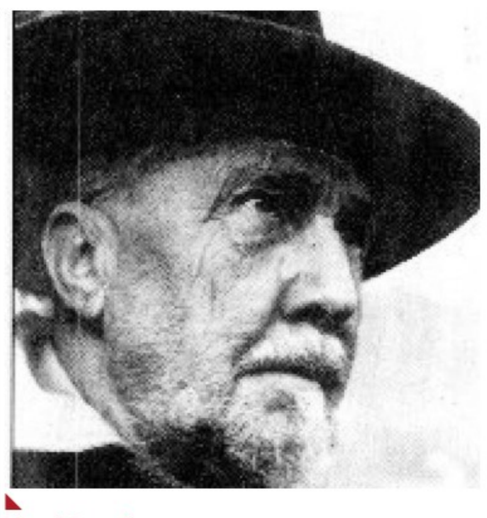
QUESTION 1
Which country was Yeats from?

QUESTION 2
In which year did he receive the Nobel Prize in Literature?

QUESTION 3
In later life, Yeats paid a tribute to which poet, describing him as one of the "great artificers of God who uttered great truths to a little clan"?

QUESTION 4
The influence of this writer is evident in Yeats' works. The theory of masks developed by the writer in his work *The Decay of Lying* can clearly be seen in Yeats's play *The Player Queen.* Name the writer

QUESTION 5
His association with this poet (answer to visual question) drew him towards which Italian politician for whom he expressed admiration on a number of occasions?



Visual Question:
Identify this American poet, whom Yeats described as "the only poet worthy of serious study."

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. In 2014, the Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction launched the #ThisBook campaign to find out which books written by women have had the biggest impact on readers. X is one of the books listed. The protagonist of X has the surname of a bird. Name X. **Ans: *To Kill a Mockingbird***
2. This influential writer, who has won the Women's Prize for Fiction, published her latest book this year. A TED talk by her on feminism became a worldwide conversation and was published as a book. An essay she wrote about losing her father was also published as a book. Name her. **Ans: Chimamanda Adichie**
3. This novel re-imagines Sophocles' play *Antigone*. Name the book, written by a Pakistani-British novelist. **Ans: Home Fire**
4. A book by a U.S. writer was longlisted for the Prize. An anonymous letter addressed to the Prize argued for the book's elimination from the contest. What issue did the letter-writers have? **Ans: She was a transwoman**
5. Grizel Niven is a British sculptor. What is the name of the sculpture she created that is presented to the award winners every year? **Ans: Bessie**
Visual: This bust motif is of an Italian archaeologist and architect. His name is also the name of a fantasy fiction novel that won the Prize. **Ans: Piranesi**
Early Birds: Tamal Biswas | Sunil Madhavan | Tito Shiladitya | Haridas Pal | Gowri Praveen

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"How do you pronounce i.o.t.a?

"The 'i' is pronounced like the word 'I'. The 'o' in the second syllable sounds like the 'oa' in words like 'boat', 'goat' and 'coat'. And the final 'a'.

"...sounds like the 'a' in 'China', I suppose."

"Yes, that's right. And the stress is on the second syllable: iOta."

"So, it's pronounced iOta?"

Right again. Do you know what iota means?"

"No, I don't. But this newspaper article says that the Prime Minister did not receive an iota of encouragement."

"In that sentence it means that the Prime Minister did not receive even a tiny bit of encouragement. An 'iota' of something is an extremely small amount of it. For example, when I asked my boss for a raise, he said he would not increase it. Not one iota."

"Why would anyone want to give you a raise? You're lucky to have a job! I would say that the person who hired you didn't have an iota of sense."

"That's a good example. But I'm sorry to say that there's not an iota of truth in what you're saying. I happen to be really good at my job."

"I am sure you are. I was only joking."

"You've been joking ever since you were a kid. You know, you haven't changed one iota. So, what have you been doing these days?"

"Nothing much. I saw the film they showed on T.V. last night. I didn't like it."

"Me neither!"

"Me neither! I thought it was grammatically unacceptable."

"It is unacceptable in writing, but not in speech. You can use it in everyday conversation."

"I see. So, if you say, 'I like coffee', can I say 'Me neither'?"

"No, you can't. You see, you normally use 'me neither' to agree with something negative that a person has said."

"What do you mean by that?"

"If I say, 'I don't like tea' and you don't like tea either, then you could say: 'Me neither'."

"But suppose you say 'I like ice cream' and I want to agree with you, what do I have to say? Can I say 'Me neither'?"

"No, you can't. Remember, you use 'me neither' with something negative that the person has said."

"Ok. So, if you say 'I like ice cream', what's an informal way of agreeing with you?"

"You could say 'me too'."

"Me too! So, if you say 'I like Tendulkar', can I respond with 'Me too'?"

"In an informal situation, yes."

"What about a formal situation? What do I say then?"

"You could say, 'So do I' or 'I do too'."

"I see."

"I love masala dosas."

"So do I. I do too."

"No, you don't. There's not an iota of truth in what you are saying. You hate masala dosas and you know it."

"I was just trying out the expressions that you'd taught me. No need to get excited about it. Chill out, will you?"

Published in The Hindu on November 26, 1996

Word of the day

Hackneyed:
repeated too often; overfamiliar through overuse

Synonyms: worn out, common, cliche

Usage: *He delivered a speech full of hackneyed phrases.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/hackneyedpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /'hækni:d/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Stampede: Arrest of RCSPL marketing head, others illegal, says High Court

The court orders their immediate release without any delay on interim bail; asks them to deposit their passports and not leave its jurisdiction without its prior permission; holds that sleuths of CCB had no jurisdiction to arrest them as the State govt., on June 5, had transferred the probe to CID

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a major setback for the State government and the police, the High Court of Karnataka on Thursday declared as "illegal" the arrest of four representatives of Royal Challengers Sports Private Ltd. (RCSPL) and DNA Networks Pvt. Ltd. They were arrested on June 6 in connection with the June 4 stampede outside the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here during the celebration of RCB's victory in IPL-2025 tournament.

Also, the court directed the immediate release of the arrested persons without any delay while granting them interim bail.

Justice S.R. Krishna Kumar passed the interim order while allowing the petitions filed by Nikhil Sosale, Head (Marketing and Revenue), RCSPL; Sunil Mathew, Director, and Kiran Kumar, Event Manager of DNA, and Shamant N.P. Mavinakere, a freelance service provider for DNA.

Head (Marketing and Revenue), RCSPL, Nikhil Sosale, and Director, DNA Networks Pvt. Ltd., Sunil Mathew, among others being taken to court after their arrest in connection with the stampede outside the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru, on June 6, 2025. PTI

RCSPL is the owner of RCB cricket team and DNA is the event management firm for RCSPL.

Multiple flaws

The court found the action of arresting them illegal for multipole reasons while also declaring that "it was impermissible for the police to cause the arrest of the petitioners pursuant to directions issued by the Chief Minister."

The State government and the police "do not specifically deny" the specific contention of the petitioners that they were arrested on the orders of the Chief Minister as there is only "a vague and evasive denial" on this contention in the written statement filed by the government, the court noted.

It said that the arrest was *prima facie* illegal as the police did not place any material to show the petitioners' involvement or commission of offence.

Also, the court said that there was no material whatsoever to show proximate cause or live nexus between the petitioners to establish their culpability for the commission of the offences, prior to their arrest as their mere relation as employees/directors /officials of RCB/DNA could not have been made the basis by the police to arrest them.

"A perusal of the material on record would indicate that at the time of causing arrest of the petitioners the investigating officer has not furnished the required checklist/mandatory documents such as arrest intimation, memorandum of arrest, grounds of arrest, inspection memo in accordance with the guidelines mandated in the Arnesh Kumar's case supra and D.K. Basu's case supra..." Justice Kumar observed.

The arrest of Nikhil was made without outlining or detailing his role, involvement and participation in the event as the police described him as vice-president and director of RCB when he is only a head of marketing and revenue of RCSPL, the court pointed out. It also held that the sleuths of Central Crime Branch, who had arrested the petitioners during the wee hours of June 6, had no jurisdiction to arrest them as the State government, with "immediate effect" from noon on June 5 had transferred the probe to the Criminal Investigation Department.

Meanwhile, the petitioners were directed not to directly or indirectly threaten or tamper with the prosecution witnesses or hamper the investigation; to cooperate with the investigation and inquiries by the commission and the sub-divisional magistrate; to execute a personal bond for ₹1 lakh each with two sureties each for the like sum to the satisfaction of the trial court, and to deposit their passports before the trial court within a period of two weeks from the date of their release, and not to leave its jurisdiction without the prior permission of the High Court.

CS will preserve all communications, High Court told

Krishnaprasad
BENGALURU

A-G Shashi Kiran Shetty says the State government will undertake the responsibility

The Advocate-General, representing the State government, on Thursday gave an undertaking to the High Court of Karnataka that all the original communications/correspondents, be it offline or online, between various authorities/ individuals of the State government and others will be preserved by the Chief Secretary to the State.

An assurance in this regard was given before a division bench comprising acting Chief Justice V. Kameswar Rao and Justice C.M. Joshi during the hearing on a PIL petition, which the court *suo motu* initiated on June 5, over the June 4 stampede incident outside M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in which 11 persons had died.

When the bench said that all communications will have to be preserved, A-G Shashi Kiran Shetty said that the government will undertake the responsibility. Meanwhile, the bench took on record the report submitted in sealed cover by the State government to the nine questions posed by the bench earlier about the RCB victory celebrations that led to a stampede outside the stadium.

As many individuals and advocates filed applications to be interveners in the proceedings on this PIL to raise several issues, including the issue non-following of "a guide for State government, local authorities, administrators and organisers for managing crowd at events and venues of mass gathering", prepared and notified by the National Disaster Management Authority, in Karnataka, the bench said that it would take a call on considering the applications at a later stage.

The bench said that it would further hear the petition on June 17 after going through the response to its queries filed by the government.

DPAR nod to KSCA for event at Vidhana Soudha reached police on June 5, papers show

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

This has raised questions on the timeline of events, and how the letter could reach the police a day after the event

The letter from the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR), in-charge of Vidhana Soudha, giving permission to the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) to hold a felicitation for the IPL winning Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) team on the grand steps of the administrative nerve centre of the State, was received at the office of Deputy Commissioner of Police (Vidhana Soudha Security) only on June 5.

The event was on June 4, the note by the inward section at the office shows. This has raised questions on the timeline of events, and how the letter could reach the police a day after the event.

The Hindu is in possession of the complete trail of the documents. The papers show that the DPAR writes to DCP (Vidhana Soudha Security) seeking his opinion for an event to felicitate RCB on the grand steps of Vidhana Soudha if the team wins.

Flagging concerns

This letter is dated and signed June 3. In response to this letter, M. N. Karibasavana Gowda, DCP (Vidhana Soudha Security), wrote back flagging concerns over lack of time to prepare for security for the event, but said the police would abide by the decision of the government.

This letter has been dated and signed June 4. Following this, DPAR wrote to the CEO, KSCA, permitting them to hold the event on the grand steps of Vidhana Soudha subject to 16 conditions. A copy of this letter, dated June 4, seems to have reached the police on June 5.

For all letters and documents that reach a police station or an office, the inward section assigns it a serial number, enters it in a register and marks it with a seal and sign.

The DPAR letter giving permission to the KSCA for the event, is marked with serial number 1656 and the official has signed the document marking the date June 5, 2025.

However, DPAR Secretary G. Satyavathi said that the allegations were "not true". Despite multiple attempts, Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh was not available for comment.

Presently, multiple probes – magisterial inquiry, judicial inquiry by Justice John Michael Cunha, and CID – into the stampede fiasco are mostly focusing on the events at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium.

Amidst the IAS and IPS officials being at loggerheads, there have been demands from within the fraternity that the probe be expanded to all the happenings with respect to RCB victory celebrations in the city on June 4, including the event at the Vidhana Soudha.

Police officials have argued that the event at the stadium cannot be looked at in isolation, as the open-air event at the Vidhana Soudha and the confusion over the victory parade brought lakhs of fans to the streets, leading to overcrowding and stampede at the stadium.

Video clips

Two video clips which show the crowds gathered at the Vidhana Soudha being directed towards the stadium are also doing the rounds.

A senior IAS officer, speaking to television channels during preparations of the event on the grand steps, is heard saying that the Vidhana Soudha was only the starting point of the victory parade and appealing to RCB fans to not gather in large numbers at the Vidhana Soudha but go to the stadium.

By then Home Minister G. Parameshwara had announced that there would be no victory parade, sources claimed.

In another video, the anchor of the felicitation event at the Vidhana Soudha, announcing the end of the event, is heard appealing to the crowd to move towards the stadium, "if there was space".

"Any probe into the stampede fiasco that day has to look at all the events of the day holistically and not in a piecemeal manner," a senior police official said.

Ashok calls for NHRC intervention

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Describing the stampede that claimed 11 lives during the RCB victory celebrations in the city as the result of "gross negligence, mismanagement and blatant disregard for public safety by the government of Karnataka and other agencies concerned", Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly and BJP leader R. Ashok has sought the intervention of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in the matter.

In a letter to the NHRC Chairperson dated June 11, Mr. Ashok appealed to the commission to take suo motu cognisance of the stampede and take up a comprehensive investigation into the roles and responsibilities of the government officials, agencies and private entities involved in organising the event.

He termed the stampede as a "deeply disturbing incident of human rights violation" and said the commission's intervention is vital not only to secure justice for the affected families, but also to ensure that such incidents do not recur.

He requested the commission to ensure accountability and recommend necessary disciplinary or legal action against those found guilty of negligence.

The commission should issue guidelines and protocols, and prevent recurrence of such incidents during large-scale public events, with a focus on crowd control, safety norms and emergency preparedness, Mr. Ashok said. He appealed to the commission to monitor the ongoing investigation to ensure transparency, fairness and justice for the victims and their families.

R. Ashok

Alleging that several critical lapses had been found with respect to organising the victory celebrations, Mr. Ashok said there was lack of crowd controlling mechanism while the event had been oversold. "The stadium that has a capacity of about 35,000 persons saw a massive and unmanageable influx of lakhs of people, allegedly due to misleading announcements regarding free passes," he alleged.

Reports had suggested a shortfall in on-ground security personnel required to manage the crowd, he claimed. Witnesses had reported a severe shortage of medical aid, ambulances and even basic facilities such as drinking water, he said.

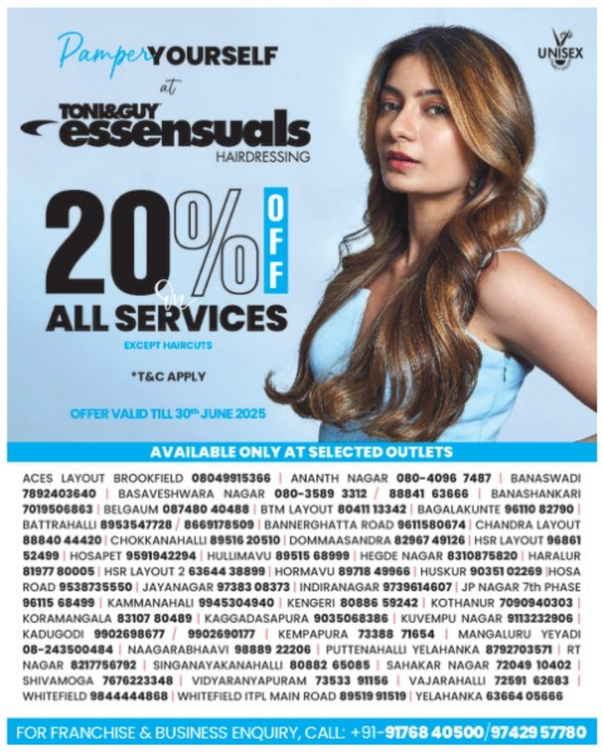
Accusing the organisers of behaving in an irresponsible manner, he said the alleged misinformation by RCB, the event management firm DNA and the Karnataka State Cricket Association contributed directly to the chaos.

BWSSB phone-in programme today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board will host a phone-in programme on Friday from 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m..

This initiative is aimed at resolving issues related to drinking water supply, sewage overflow, water metering, and billing discrepancies. People can participate by calling 080-22945119 or 080-22229639.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BJP puts off today's protest

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In the wake of the plane crash tragedy near Ahmedabad airport, the BJP State unit has put off its protest scheduled in Bengaluru on Friday against the Congress government with respect to the stampede during RCB's victory celebrations that claimed 11 lives.

In a release, BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra on Thursday said the party decided to put off its protest in the wake of such a tragedy.

The BJP had planned to launch a State-wide campaign against the Congress government with the involvement of families of the victims of the stampede. "My thoughts and prayers are with everyone on board in this incredibly difficult time," he said.

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REGISTRAR

Ground zero: A bird's eye view of the Hemavati Express Link Canal Project site at Sankapura in Gubbi taluk of Tumakuru district. Civil work on the project has been halted temporarily following the protest on May 31. The Tumakuru branch canal is at right. K. MURALI KUMAR

Claims, counter-claims over water sharing trigger a row

Hemavati Express Link Canal Project, which proposes transferring the river water from Gubbi taluk of Tumakuru district to the nearby Magadi taluk in Bengaluru South district, has set off a controversy. **Sharath S. Srivatsa** visits the project site to map the multiple layers of the row

Calm prevails at Sankapura village, nestled amid coconut and arecanut plantations, nearly two weeks after a massive protest by farmers of Tumakuru district, accompanied by some Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party and Janata Dal (S) leaders and religious leaders, in south-eastern Karnataka.

Their opposition to the Hemavati Express Link Canal Project – an offshoot of the Hemavati branch canal that proposes to transfer the river water to nearby Magadi taluk in the neighbouring Bengaluru South district (erstwhile Ramanagara district) – had turned violent. After an estimated 20,000 farmers from various taluks descended on the village in Gubbi taluk to protest on May 31, civil work was ordered to be halted temporarily, while massive pipes procured for the project are lying scattered at the site.

To be affected: B.P. Chandrashekar and Govind Rao of Bennuru village and Lingaraju K.N. of Kaggere village showing the trees at a plantation that will have to be removed for the Hemavati Express Link Canal Project. K. MURALI KUMAR

A posse of policemen attached to the Karnataka State Reserve Police is now deployed on the village outskirts. The Tumakuru police have filed 13 FIRs against over 100 people, including three Opposition legislators – G.B. Jyothi Ganesh and Suresh Gowda of the BJP and M.T. Krishnappa of the JD(S) – and seers of four religious mutts, on charges including violating prohibitory orders, damaging public property, and indulging in stone pelting. The government is now considering withdrawing the FIRs against the seers. The protesters, including the legislators, have sought a study by a recognised institute to ascertain the viability of the project.

"The government is pushing the project without consultation and technical discussion. We are not against sharing water, but oppose the project in this form," says Govind Rao, a coconut grower in Bennuru village, about a kilometre away from Sankapura. The Hemavati branch canal passes between Bennuru and Sankapura villages, where the link canal is proposed to be started. The region is dotted with arecanut, coconut, and pomegranate plantations that are dependent on groundwater. Ragi and vegetables are grown in smaller quantities owing to the unavailability of labour and the rising cost of cultivation, farmers say.

Lack of knowledge

Many villagers *The Hindu* spoke to had no clear picture of the project and realised its magnitude only after the contractor unloaded massive pipes near the construction site. Near Kallur village, a middle-aged woman, Siddagangaa, is worried about losing a part of her plantation to the canal work. "They are planning to take the pipelines through our farms. As it is, our holdings are small and if plants are uprooted, we are ruined," she says.

The villagers say the government had neither issued notices nor acquired land from farmers for laying the underground pipeline, which caused further confusion. It was B.P. Chandrashekar of Bennuru who flagged the issue and went to court against the project. "They started excavating the ground to cut a trench to lay the pipes through my farm. One of the fully-grown coconut trees came crashing down. They insisted on continuing the work, and I got a permanent injunction from the Gubbi court," he says. Following this, many others have approached the court. Chandrashekar says that after the underground pipeline is laid, farmers cannot grow either arecanut or coconut, which are the main crops in the region. "Only vegetables can be grown," he says. For Chandrashekar, it is a déjà vu moment as he had earlier lost land for the Tumakuru branch canal and also for another canal that takes water to Gubbi.

> When the Tumakuru branch canal has been modified to carry a higher quantum of water up to Kunigal at a cost of ₹550 crore, why is the government spending ₹1,000 crore on this?
>
> **A. GOVINDRAJU,** KRRS Tumakuru district president

According to B.C. Chandan, a farmer, though attempts were made to start the work in May 2024, it was stalled after farmers opposed it. "This is the second time that the work is being started," he says.

Approved in 2019

Though the express link canal project received approval in early 2019 from the JD(S)-Congress alliance government, the succeeding BJP government led by B.S. Yediyurappa shelved it. The project was revived by the incumbent Congress government in January 2024, and attempts were made to start the work in May 2024. The project envisages supplying water to Magadi taluk for drinking purposes and groundwater rejuvenation by transferring water to the link canal from the Tumakuru branch canal.

The about ₹1,000-crore project entails taking water from the nearly 240-km-long Tumakuru branch canal (that runs from Channarayapatna to Kunigal) at the 70-km mark and bringing it to the same canal at the 165-km mark through a 34.5 km underground pipeline. Currently, Kunigal gets water from the Tumakuru branch canal after it meanders through Gubbi, Turuvekere, Tumakuru Rural, and Tumakuru. The express canal project cuts the distance by about 60 km.

The project is also linked with the Sri Ranga Lift Irrigation Project that will eventually lift the water towards Magadi taluk from the 191-km mark of the Tumakuru branch canal near Hirekere-Begurkere in Kunigal taluk. As many as 83 lakes in Magadi taluk are proposed to be filled using 0.67 tmcft of water to rejuvenate groundwater and to serve the drinking water needs. Though just about 450 metres of excavation for the link canal project has been completed in the Muzrai land belonging to Kencharaya and Sompuradamma temple at Sankapura, substantial work such as pumping station and sub-stations have been completed in the lift irrigation project.

For it: Traffic movement on the Bengaluru-Mangaluru highway was affected near Solur on June 5 as farmers from Magadi taluk took out a march seeking the implementation of the Hemavati link canal project. K. MURALI KUMAR

But Tumakuru farmers have fears about water yield. "Once the link canal becomes operational, the water will flow out of the Tumakuru branch canal with force due to gravity, and Tumakuru district can end up getting far less than what has been allocated. The rain-parched district can once again become water-starved," fears Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha Tumakuru district president A. Govindraju. "Nobody is opposing water supply to Kunigal, which is also in the Tumakuru district. When the Tumakuru branch canal has been modified to carry a higher quantum of water up to Kunigal at a cost of ₹550 crore, why is the government spending ₹1,000 crore on this?"

> Lives in Magadi taluk and Tumakuru district are socially and economically connected. Politicians are playing politics over water.
>
> **'KANNADA' KUMAR,** progressive farmer from Hanumapura village

Farmers also question the need for an underground pipeline. However, the government has justified it, arguing that it is to prevent water theft en route and also distribution losses due to evaporation. Illegal pumping of water from the canal is widespread in Tumakuru, though the police seize pumps regularly.

Bone of contention

The sharing of the Hemavati waters from the 25.3 tmcft allocated to the Tumakuru branch canal has long been the bone of contention. Over a decade ago, farmers had opposed another canal that took water to Sira, also in the Tumakuru district. The taluk-wise allocation notified in 2019 by the State, after the Supreme Court order confirmed the inter-State water dispute award over the sharing of the Cauvery waters in 2018, provides 25.3 tmcft to be distributed among 14 taluks across Tumakuru, Mandya, Hassan, Chikkamagaluru, Chitradurga, and the erstwhile Ramanagara districts through the Tumakuru branch canal. Magadi is one of the beneficiary taluks proposed to receive 0.67 tmfcft or about 2.64% of the total allocation in the Tumakuru branch canal for drinking water purposes. Of the total, 6.8 tmcft has been earmarked for drinking water schemes.

Water Resources Department sources argue that Magadi taluk is in the Cauvery basin and is also part of the taluks that received water allocation in 2019. "Why is there a problem with Magadi? There has been no inter-basin transfer. As per the National Water Policy, 2012, and the State Water Policy, 2022, Magadi falls in the first-order priority for drinking water. The Sri Ranga Lift Irrigation Project is aligned with the National Water Policy," says an official.

The overall allocation from the Hemavati has to be seen through legal, social, administrative, and technical perspectives, officials say, even as confusion and lack of awareness prevail among farmers in Tumakuru. An official emphasises that the district boundary is not the criterion for allocating the water, but the basin is the predominant factor. "Inter-basin transfers have happened in Sira and Hosadurga. We cannot deprive Magadi of water since it is part of the basin," he says.

Tumakuru and Mandya districts receive the Hemavati waters from the Gorur reservoir in Hassan district through the A.G. Ramachandra Rao Canal, which is the left bank canal (LBC). After traversing for 72 km, the LBC bifurcates near Channarayapatna in Hassan district. While one branch goes towards Tumakuru, the other – Sahukar Chennaiah Canal – goes to Mandya district, serving K.R. Pet, Shravanabelagola, Pandavapura, and Nagamangala.

The branch going towards Tumakuru passes through the Baguru-Navile tunnel, after which it again bifurcates into the Tumakuru branch canal and the Nagamangala branch canal, which together have been allocated 25.3 tmcft. The Nagamangala branch canal serves Tiptur and Turuvekere in Tumakuru district, while Nagamangala in Mandya district is at the tail end.

Over the decades, the distribution of the Hemavati water impounded at Gorur has been a point of contention between Hassan and Tumakuru farmers. Hassan farmers are often accused of utilising a higher quantum of water through the canal networks. Of the total 37 tmcft of water impounded at Gorur, Hassan district gets 18% of the overall allocation, while Tumakuru and Mandya gets 45% and 35% allocation, respectively.

"In fact, Hassan farmers, who have sacrificed land and homes for the Gorur reservoir, could have asked for more allocation than Tumakuru and Mandya," an official argues. He also points out that the supervisory control and data acquisition mechanism, an electronically controlled canal operating system, to be located at the Hemavati project office in Tumakuru, would regulate and quantify the flow of water, and this office is accessible to all to ascertain the water flow.

In Magadi taluk, 'Kannada' Kumar, a progressive farmer from Hanumapura village who has organised a group of organic farmers, argues that what is playing out around the project now is much politics. He says that Magadi taluk being the catchment area for reservoirs at T.G. Halli, Y.G. Gudda, and Manchanabele does not benefit it owing to the topography. "Lives in Magadi taluk and Tumakuru district are socially and economically connected. Politicians are playing politics over water. Magadi has been allocated a small quantum." Magadi's Karnataka Development Programme member T.G. Venkatesh, a resident of Thippasandra, says that they are asking for water to fill lakes and not for irrigation, and that too based on the allocation made.

Many hues of politics

Now, farmers in Magadi taluk in Bengaluru South district have organised themselves to stage protests, seeking immediate implementation of the project. Political leaders, too, have entered the fray. The keen interest of Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who also holds the Major and Medium Irrigation portfolio, his brother and former Bengaluru Rural MP D.K. Suresh, and their relative H.D. Ranganath, Congress MLA for Kunigal, in this project has aroused political interests. For the JD(S), opposition in Tumakuru to bring water to Magadi can affect its political equity in Bengaluru South. Congress legislator from Gubbi S.R. Srinivas has aired his opposition to the project, though he has not joined the protest. Farmers in Magadi are questioning the absence of BJP MP representing Bengaluru Rural C.N. Manjunath in the agitations. It has a caste colour too, as it is seen as a covert fight between Lingayats in Tumakuru district and predominantly Vokkaligas in Magadi taluk.

Shivakumar has said the question of dropping the project, cleared by a technical committee, does not arise since about 40% of the work has been completed, and has dismissed the protest as "politically motivated".

The third studio album of the band, which has been in the making for eight years, has been mounted on an international scale

Back from unbelief

Athira M
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"This is the most personal thing that we have made." That is how AGAM, the band that makes Carnatic music rock, defines *Arrival of the Ethereal*, their third studio album. "It encompasses our journey," says Harish Sivaramakrishnan, lead vocalist of the Bengaluru-based band.

The band, formed in 2003, and active on the live show circuit since 2007, has taken almost eight years to bring out this album. Although work on it started after the release of their second studio album, *A Dream To Remember* (2017), the pandemic upset their plans. "The plan was to release it in 2020. But when COVID-19 struck, there were no shows, zero income and total uncertainty. We came back from a situation where we had no self-belief. That is why we consider the album the most personal thing."

T Praveen Kumar, the lead guitarist, adds, "All of us went into a hole; there was creative shutdown since we were not able to meet each other and jam. It took another two years or so for us to get back our focus, energy and spirits."

The album has eight songs. AR Rahman recently launched the first song, 'The Silence That Remains'. Three more will be released in the next few months. The rest will come out next year. "While five tracks in the album are based on traditional Carnatic compositions, the others are originals," Harish says.

The delay had also much to do with the fact that the album has been mounted on a bigger scale. Over 300 artistes, including international musicians, are part of this project. "The Czech National Symphony Orchestra has played for us. Big brass band from Argentina, orchestral conductors from Italy, choir musicians from Hungary and the US, musicians from West Asia ... the album has it all."

Among them is Grammy-winning audio engineer and producer from Argentina, Andres Mayo, who has done the mixing with Martin Muscatello. Mastering is done by renowned engineer, Sai Shravanam. Mohan Veena exponent and Grammy winner Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt has collaborated in one of the tracks.

"We travelled to work with the international artistes, while some of it was done online. In addition, we worked in multiple studios across India and abroad. We have also used a *chenda* ensemble in the album, which is not the usual *chenda melam*. Several new instruments have been incorporated. It is a first for AGAM's soundscape and musical dimension."

Praveen adds, "The album took time because we tried to push our boundaries; there was a conscious decision to make it sound different. And each artiste put his heart and soul into it."

According to Swamy Seetharaman who is on the keyboard, the band had set the bar high for the album's soundscape. "It was toil every single day. We put ourselves on the edge. Exploring several emotions through the songs has been a different experience. It has not been easy, especially, executing it with so many voices, instruments etc... the whole thing was on a different league for us."

So, what was the emotion behind going big? "First, our age," Harish says. "We are all on the wrong side of 40. It became a now-or-never situation. As Praveen says, five years ago would have been too early and five years later would have been too late. We don't know the outcome, but wished to take our ambition to the maximum. I believe we have achieved that to a great extent," Harish says.

Rocking the ragas AGAM has taken almost eight years to bring out *Arrival of the Ethereal*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The music videos, produced by Wonderwall Media and shot by Sumesh Lal, have also been made on a grand scale. "We have had a long-standing association with Sumesh. He has made it the way we wanted."

The first track, 'The Silence That Remains', is based on Tyagaraja's composition, 'Mokshamu galada', which ruminates on the philosophy of attaining moksha (salvation) and the cycle of life and death. With an impeccable, grand arrangement that switches between the traditional and the modern, the composition is yet another proof of AGAM's solid experiment with soundscape.

"This composition is generally treated with soft orchestration and sung with focus on the softer aspect of the song. It has not had such an aggressive orchestral treatment. So it took time to arrive at that form," Harish explains. Swamy adds, "It is largely about the five elements, depicting the struggles of material life, which have been brought out through unique sounds. We have used 30-35 tracks for this alone! For instance, there are sounds of earth trembling, earth plate shifting, ocean waves, volcano erupting... Towards the end there is the soundscape of a funeral – the sound of pot cracking and water flowing. And then you hear the heartbeat, meaning, the cycle of life starts again."

Harish says they always go through a long process to select the Carnatic compositions. "We take a lot of songs but majority would not translate meaningfully. If there are eight or 10 songs, maybe two might align in a sensible direction. It is all about experimenting because this style does not have a template. There are several deterrents when we work. Ultimately, it has to fall in place organically."

Reflecting on Rahman's observation that they are a band that "believes in identity", Harish says, "That is huge validation for us. When we talk about identity, we are clear about what we should not or will not do. When we were half way through the album, many well-wishers pointed out that the Instagram generation will consume only a 30 to 90 second reel whereas the average duration of our song is eight to nine minutes, which is equal to six Instagram reels! We prefer to do it like that and cannot compromise on the kind of music we want to create. That has become our identity," he explains.

That is where the band takes pride in their huge fanbase. "We are very fortunate that way. Recently we came across a fan in his 20s who had come to our first concert with his father when he was five. Any artist will love to play for such an evolved audience," Harish says. Praveen adds, "The audience's expectation is so high that we do not want to drop the ball."

The second song from the album will be released by the end of this month, which, Harish says, is "an interesting take on a composition every South Indian would know." The remaining two will be released by August after which the band will set out on a world tour with the album.

The line-up: Harish Sivaramakrishnan (vocals), T Praveen Kumar (guitars), Swamy Seetharaman (keyboards and additional programming), Aditya Kasyap (bass), Sivakumar Nagarajan (percussion) and Yadhunandan Nagaraj (drums).

AGAM is performing at two concerts in partnership with The Akshaya Patra Foundation. At MLR Convention Centre, Whitefield on June 14 and Prestige Center for Performing Arts on June 15. Time: 7pm.

Medieval masterpiece The painting was rediscovered centuries later in a private collection. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Magdalene in Ecstasy in town

One of Caravaggio's most compelling and influential works is the first original to have travelled to India

Magdalene in Ecstasy, one of Italian baroque artist Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio's most compelling and influential works was painted in 1606 while Caravaggio was in hiding after fleeing Rome following the killing of Ranuccio Tommason. The painting will be unveiled in the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), on June 13.

The painting was rediscovered centuries after it remained hidden in a private collection and previously known only through copies made by his followers, is the first original one by the artist to have travelled to India.

"Caravaggio's profound impact on the history of Western art, the enduring wonder his paintings inspire, and the dramatic entwinement of his tumultuous life with his artistic output continue to spark fresh publications and interpretations," states a release about the exhibition, pointing out that the artist's influence on his contemporaries, both in Italy and across Europe, was immediate and transformative.

"The term caravaggesco quickly emerged to describe artists who adopted his radical style, particularly his masterful use of light and chiaroscuro."

In addition to the painting, visitors will be able to explore an immersive VR experience on Caravaggio's life and techniques as well as other collateral events.

The painting will be on display till July 6 between 10am and 6pm, (Mondays and national holidays closed).
Call 2234 2338

Wander into this watering hole

Find a way to fit Kaavu into your plans for a day out — it offers more than just great food and drinks

Escape room Kaavu offers an urban hideaway. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Ruth Dhanaraj
ruth.dhanaraj@thehindu.co.in

With pubs popping up on every corner, it gets challenging for larger parties and varied tastes. This is where Kaavu comes in. Set in a sprawling acre of greenery in central Whitefield, Kaavu (grove or forest in Malayalam) lives up to its name as a vibrant patch of green in a city that has morphed into a concrete jungle. Sectioned into seven zones each with their unique ambience, visitors can choose what suits them best.

Of course, the food and drink is what brings repeat customers to any watering hole, and Kaavu is not lacking here, offering a wide range of cuisines including Asian, Italian, European and Indian.

We begin with the burrata and Bengal aamsotto salad. It is a refreshing bowl of raw mango, cherry tomatoes and lotus stem crisps, paired with greens and spiced aamsotto (mango leather). Alongside the salad, we are served the Kozhikode egg roast. Tagged under starters, this well-flavoured morsel is a welcome surprise in a restobar.

Our drinks arrive at the table with a flourish. Showtime is a fun concoction of bourbon, vermouth, maple caramel and cola, arriving in a cheerful, red-and-white striped box topped with real popcorn. The abundant popcorn sliding off makes it a bit cumbersome to handle. The Kaavu Mist on the other hand, with gin and green apple, herb cordial, green pepper tincture and vermouth, is piquant and certainly a more sophisticated libation.

The kaffir lime fish tikka has a distinctive zing, while the Kaavu wings tasting platter with a combination of barbecue, Caribbean and Gochujang marinades made for an interesting pairing with our drinks. The crispy fish in Indonesian sambal is a must-try too.

We wind up our meal with the Sri Lankan Jaffna curry and jasmine rice. Hearty and wholesome, it was a fitting end to a lunch that had almost extended to tea time, and hence, desserts were out of the question.

While a day out at Kaavu, could sate differing appetites, one misses the days and places where a single cuisine or dish was the star of the show.

Kaavu is in Brookefield, Siddapura. Ph: 99803 08349. Cost for two ₹1500

STEPOUT

Art for a cause

Ethereal Charm, an exhibition on forests and wildlife, by Niladri Ghosh is on.

The award-winning artist strives to raise awareness about the consequences of deforestation on wildlife and people through his paintings. Niladri uses peacocks and other animals to provoke thought and empathy.

At Sublime Galleria, UB City, 8th Floor between June 13 and July 6. Entry fee is ₹ 50 per person

After nudge by high command, Cabinet gives nod for fresh survey

As per the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1995, a fresh survey is mandated every 10 years and this is the reason for the re-enumeration, says Siddaramaiah

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Giving details: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah addressing presspersons after a special Cabinet meeting in Bengaluru on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Nudged by the Congress high command, which had been petitioned by the politically-dominant Vokkaliga and Veerashaiva-Lingayat communities against accepting the Socio-Economic and Educational Survey (caste census) report, the Karnataka Cabinet on Thursday gave its nod for a fresh survey.

The Congress high command, on Tuesday, suggested to the Karnataka government to hold re-enumeration of caste data within a stipulated time to address concerns of some communities who complained of being "left out."

With the Cabinet decision, the caste census of 2015 – which had been conducted for the first time during the colonial times in 1931 – is no longer valid.

Reason for re-survey

Citing the lapse of 10 years since the conduct of the survey, by the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes headed by H. Kantharaj in 2015, as the reason for re-survey, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, in the post-Cabinet briefing, told presspersons: "As per the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1995, a fresh survey is mandated every 10 years. A lot of changes would have taken place in this last 10 years in the social and educational realm."

He also said that the Cabinet had, in principle, agreed to the survey report submitted by Mr. Hegde.

When Mr. Siddaramaiah's response was sought on if the State government was under pressure from the high command, the Chief Minister said: "The process was on. The high command has also advised for a new survey. We are not doing it just because they asked us to do a new survey. We have not succumbed to the pressure of the high command."

Asked why the State Cabinet had accepted the report in April, 2025, when it was nearly 10 years (survey conducted between April 11-2015 and 30 May, 2015), the Chief Minister said: "It was only after discussions started that we realised that by law and constitutional provisions it has to be done after a lapse of 10 years. As per Section 11 of the Act, any report after 10 years is not tenable. The provisions in the Act is clear that a new survey has to be conducted every 10 years after which a new list of backward classes could be drawn by either deleting existing castes or adding new castes."

It was also pointed out to the Chief Minister that when Mr. Hegde submitted his report, the survey had not completed 10 years.

Within 90 days

Stating that the fresh survey work would be completed "within 90 days of notifying", he said that members to the backward classes commission will be appointed in the "next two to three days".

'Let HDK and BYV say they favour old caste census'

D.K. Shivakumar

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Hitting out at the Opposition parties for their "contradictory and vacillating stand" over the caste census, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Thursday said that social justice was the reason for redoing the caste census and not politics.

"The Opposition parties, who criticised the previous caste census, are opposing the new one. Let them take a stand to support the original caste census if they have an issue with the new one," Mr. Shivakumar told reporters after a Cabinet meeting.

"Let H.D. Kumaraswamy, B.Y. Vijayendra, and R. Ashok call for a press conference and announce that they are in favour of the earlier caste census. They are making a lot of comments; we will respond to them in the Assembly session," he said, pointing out that the BJP and the JD(S) were earlier asking for redoing the census.

Groundwork for new caste census could start by September-October

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

Data being collected for the Socio-Economic and Educational Survey (caste census) in 2015. FILE PHOTO

Drawing from the experience of the H. Kantharaj Commission, which conducted the Socio-Economic and Educational Survey (caste census) in 2015, based on which the K. Jayaprakash Hegde Commission submitted recommendations in 2024, the State government is hoping to complete the new survey of a population of about seven crore in Karnataka by this December.

The Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes, which is now headed by former Advocate General Madhusudan R. Naik, will be taking up the survey.

Time factor

While multiple sources, who have worked previously in the commission, estimated that the minimum time required to complete the survey and provide recommendations would be about a year, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said that it would be completed in three months from the date of notification. The survey – after preparation – is not expected to begin anytime before September/ October, Backward Classes Department sources said. Multiple sources have pointed that preparation of the list of castes/ sub castes, appointing and training of enumerators, creating blocklist, analysis of data and preparing report/ recommendation could take a lot of time.

Telangana example

However, Backward Classes Department sources pointed to Telangana, which conducted a similar survey through the Planning Commission and completed the whole exercise of planning, survey work, and recommendations in 70 days.

"With improvement in technology and use of mobile phone application, we believe that the survey work would be faster. The H.N. Nagmohan Das Commission working on internal reservation has used a software to collect information. With change of applications, we can develop a similar one for the survey," sources said, pointing out at the availability of the digitised data of 1.34 crore families.

The number of questions in the questionnaire that was 54 in the previous survey could also be reduced, sources indicated.

Involving teachers

Regarding restrictions on utilising teachers for the survey during working days under the Right To Education Act, sources said that each teacher could be given 150 to 200 houses for the entire survey period.

"Teachers can complete two houses a day and they can participate in the survey after the school hours. We may rope in many others along with teachers for the survey work this time. We are still in the planning stage and nothing is fixed yet. The members of the commission will also be appointed soon," said a source.

Karnataka to seek increase in devolution of funds under 16th Finance Commission

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To recover losses from reduced devolution to Karnataka under the 15th Finance Commission, the Karnataka government has proposed to seek additional grants under the 16th Finance Commission during a meeting in Delhi on Friday.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who also holds the Finance portfolio, and his economic adviser and MLA Basavaraj Rayaraddi, and senior officials would participate in the meeting and hold discussions with Arvind Panagariya, chairman, 16th Finance Commission.

The 16th Finance Commission has already held one round of talks with the Karnataka government.

Decreased devolution

Karnataka, which has been complaining about discrimination in the devolution of funds by the NDA government, is expected to demand increase in the devolution funds from 3.64% to 5% in the 16th Finance Commission.

The 15th Finance Commission, in its award period (2020-21 to 2025-26), had dragged Karnataka's share (horizontal devolution) down from 4.71% in the 14th FC to 3.64%. Owing to this, according to sources in the State Secretariat, the State is likely to lose ₹62,098 crore during the 15th Finance Commission period.

Karnataka gets back only 0.29 paisa for one rupee it contributes to the Central pool of taxes, while Bihar gets back ₹7.06 and Uttar Pradesh gets back ₹2.73. This has been flagged by the government several times.

Cess and surcharges

Currently, the Centre does not share cess and surcharges collected from States. Karnataka has been requesting the Centre to bring cess and surcharges from States under the divisible pool. The Centre has been collecting about ₹5 lakh crore annually in the form of taxes from the State, but Karnataka gets about ₹55,000 crore, including grants.

The Finance Commission's award period would commence from April 1, 2026.

Fact sheet

- 16th Finance Commission has already held one round of talks with the Karnataka government
- Karnataka is expected to demand increase in the devolution from **3.64%** to **5%** in the 16th Finance Commission
- Karnataka gets back only **0.29 paisa** for one rupee it contributes to the Central pool of taxes, while Bihar gets back **₹7.06** and Uttar Pradesh gets back **₹2.73**

Walking for a cause

Labour Minister Santosh Lad flagging off an awareness march on the occasion of World Day Against Child Labour, organised by the Department of Labour, in Bengaluru on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Leaders express shock over air crash

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, and leaders across parties, including BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra and JD(S) leader and Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, on Thursday expressed shock over the Air India plane crash near Ahmedabad airport and described it as a tragic incident.

In a social media post on X, Mr. Siddaramaiah said: "Deeply shocked to learn that an Air India flight with over 200 passengers has met with an accident in Ahmedabad, Gujarat" He hoped that all those affected receive timely help.

Mr. Shivakumar also expressed condolences to the victims of the crash in a post on X. Mr. Vijayendra said he was "deeply shocked and pained by the tragic Air India plane crash in Ahmedabad."

Ramachandra Gowda is new chief of BJP Chickballapur district unit

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The BJP leadership, which had put on hold the appointment of its Chickballapur district unit president following internal tussle, has now chosen a new candidate for the post.

Fuelled discontent

The appointment of new presidents for the districts had fuelled discontent in February this year as the party rebels had accused State president B.Y. Vijayendra of "ignoring the party loyalists" for these posts. Particularly, the appointment of B. Sandeep, a loyalist of Mr. Vijayenera as Chickballapur district unit had ruffled the feathers of local MP K. Sudhakar.

Elections on hold

Following this, in a letter to Mr. Vijayendra in February this year, BJP national general secretary and Karnataka in charge Radha Mohan Das Agarwal had stated that party national president J.P. Nadda had put on hold the election of Mr. Sandeep till further instructions.

Now, the BJP has taken up appointments of district presidents to the 10 districts and Mr. Sandeep has been replaced by S.V. Ramachandra Gowda as Chickballapur district unit president.

The BJP national leaders had halted the process of appointment of new presidents for nearly four months following dissidence in the party. However, the process was completed on Wednesday.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Joint Director (Animal Husbandry),
N.R. Square, Bengaluru-02

No.: JD(AH)/PR-122/2025-26 Date: 12.06.2025

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Rabies Vaccine and Combined Vaccines are being administered within the jurisdiction of the Palike, rates are requested for Active Cool Vaccine Carriers to maintain the quality and transportation of the vaccines via cold chain (Cold Chain maintenance between +2 to +8 degree temperature).

With reference to the above subject, Rabies vaccine and combined vaccines are being administered within the jurisdiction of the Palike and it is intended to procure Active Cool Vaccine Carriers to maintain the quality and transportation of the vaccines via cold chain (Cold Chain maintenance between +2 to +8 degree temperature). The interested parties are requested to submit their price proposals for the cost of one Active Cool Vaccine Carrier in a sealed quotation (including GST) to the above address before **05:00 PM** on **21.06.2025.** The details related to the Active Cool Vaccine Carriers can be obtained through email/during above office hours.

Sd/-, Joint Director (Animal Husbandry), BBMP

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No: CEE/Tr(O)ZB/SEE(O)/AE-1/2025-26/2433-34 Dtd: 12.06.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

KPTCL invites bid against the Enquiry No:KPTCL/CEE/T(O)Z/BZ/TK-03, on Combined package for the following works.

Work-1: Providing intermediate tower between T.Nos:06-09 in existing 66kV Jalamangala- Melehalli SC line on DC towers due to waterlogged at tower no.08 near Thimmasandra village, Ramanagara Town using 66kV Narrow based tower with COYOTE ACSR conductor in Operations division, Kanakapura on **Total Turnkey Basis** including supply of all matching materials /equipments and erection (including civil works) of all materials/ equipments, testing and commissioning.

Work-2: Providing intermediate tower to increase the vertical clearance for existing 66kV Kanakapura-Chikenahalli-Channapatna SC line (proposed 220/66KV MCMV line to Kothipura) between T.Nos:43-44 near Hunasemarradoddi village using 220kV Narrow based tower with COYOTE ACSR conductor (Modified Design of 220kV DC Tower of VTP) in Operations division, Kanakapura (Tower will be supplied by KPTCL) on **Partial Turnkey Basis** including supply of all matching materials /equipments and erection (including civil works) of all materials/ equipments, testing and commissioning.

Work-3: Providing intermediate tower to increase the vertical clearance of existing 66kV Kothipura-Ramanagara SC line (proposed 220/66KV MCMV line to Kothipura) between T.Nos:09-10 at Ramanagara Town using 66kV KPTCL designed Narrow based tower with COYOTE ACSR conductor in Operations division, Kanakapura on **Total Turnkey Basis** including supply of all matching materials/equipments and erection (including civil works) of all materials/equipments, testing and commissioning.

Work-4: Providing intermediate tower to increase the vertical clearance of existing 66kV Maralawadi LILO line between T.Nos:08-09 near Hucchegowdanadoddi using 66kV KPTCL designed Narrow based tower with COYOTE ACSR conductor in Operations division, Kanakapura on **Total Turnkey Basis** including supply of all matching materials/equipments and erection (including civil works) of all materials/equipments, testing and commissioning.

The Bids will be received through electronic tender mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging into Karnataka Public Procurement (KPP) Portal website: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 18.06.2025.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Electy), Transmission (Operations) Zone, KPTCL, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru-560 009

ODISHA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVT. OF ODISHA UNDERTAKING)
PANTHANIVAS (OLD BLOCK): LEWIS ROAD: BHUBANESWAR-14
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)

Letter No.1183, Date: 11.06.2025

NOTICE INVITATION FOR BIDS (NIFB)

E-Procurement Notice No. BP-I/12/2025-26 dt.11.06.2025

1. Nature of Work : Development Work
2. Total No. of Works : 01 No.
3. Value of Works : Rs.664.14 lakhs
4. Bid Security : As per NIT
5. Class of Contractor : As per NIT.
6. Period of Completion : 18 (Eighteen) Months.
7. Other details as follows :-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Bid online		Date, Time & Place of Opening of Tender
Superintending Engineer. OTDC Ltd., Bhubaneswar	BP-I/12/ 2025-26 dt.11.06.2025	From 13.06.2025	To 23.06.2025	11.30 Hours of dt.24.06.2025 in the office of the Superintending Engineer, OTDC Ltd., Bhubaneswar

Further details can be seen from the Govt. Website : **www.etenderodisha.gov.in**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, O.T.D.C. Ltd., BBSR.

CAD-770 OIPR-37002/11/0081/2526

Three from old-age home die of food poisoning

The Hindu Bureau
TENKASI

Three residents of a private old-age home in Sundarapandiapuram near Tenkasi died on Thursday due to suspected food poisoning. Eight others are undergoing treatment at the Tenkasi Government Hospital.

According to preliminary investigations, after consuming the non-vegetarian meal served to them on Wednesday at the registered home, Annai Nalvaazhvu Trust, housing 59 persons, 11 persons fell ill with vomiting and diarrhoea.

11 inmates

The founder of the home, Rajendran, 48, of Shencottai immediately admitted all 11 inmates to Tenkasi Government Hospital on Wednesday night.

While Shankar Ganesh, 42, of Shencottai died on Wednesday night, Ambika, 45, of Shencottai, and S. Murugammal, 45, of Chokkampatti, passed away on Thursday.

The bodies of the deceased were handed over to their relatives after postmortem examination.

Relatives of Ambika, a woman with intellectual disabilities, said they had admitted her to the home after her mother passed away last year.

Doctors said the residents might have consumed spoilt or improperly cooked meat.

Samples of the food have been sent for analysis. Further investigations are on, the police said.

Ship rescue operation hit as salvor vessel runs out of fuel

Director-General of Shipping says *Offshore Warrior* had limited firefighting capability, lacked foam to contain spread of fire; Coast Guard continues efforts despite challenging sea conditions

Dhinesh Kallungal
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Fighting fire: A specialised team dispersing 1,000 kg of dry chemical powder directly onto the core of *MV Wan Hai 503*'s fire on Thursday. PTI

Even as the authorities have been struggling to contain the fire onboard the Singapore-flagged container vessel *MV Wan Hai 503*, the vessel *Offshore Warrior*, deployed by the owners of the ship to mitigate the imminent danger of a possible explosion, had to leave the site of the accident after running short of fuel, delaying the emergency response operations. The vessel caught fire off the Kerala coast on June 9.

In a letter addressed to Wan Hai International Pvt Ltd, Singapore, on Wednesday, Director-General of Shipping Shyam Jagannathan said *Offshore Warrior* did not have adequate fuel to continue the operation and had departed for Kochi for refuelling.

Though the Indian Coast Guard had successfully managed to connect a towline to the burning vessel, the absence of *Offshore Warrior* is expected to delay the towing of the vessel away from the Indian coast, which could have serious implications given the prevailing conditions, the DGS noted.

Further, it was observed that *Offshore Warrior* that was positioned at the seat of the fire had limited firefighting capability and lacked foam to contain the spread of fire, making the vessel unsuitable for effectively addressing the rapidly evolving and critical situation, he said.

Efforts continue

Meanwhile, the Indian Coast Guard continued its firefighting efforts despite challenging sea conditions, a senior ICG official said.

A specialised team was deployed onboard an Indian Air Force Mi-17 helicopter to carry out aerial firefighting operations. During the mission, the team successfully dispersed 1,000 kg of dry chemical powder directly onto the fire's core, the official said. "Although the external fire has been extinguished, dense smoke continues to emanate, indicating residual internal heat and possible metallic fire," the ICG said.

Meanwhile, the salvage team observed hydrocarbon release near the fuel tank of the burning ship. The presence of hydrocarbon vapours indicates possible heat transfer near fuel tanks. The authorities have been keenly watching the developments as there was a chance for a Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapour Explosion (BLEVE).

At present, continuous onboard assessments are being conducted to monitor any escalation. The vessel remains structurally afloat but poses continued risk due to onboard hazardous cargo.

The ship is drifting within the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone in a southeasterly direction, approximately 42 nautical miles from Beypore, Kerala. The fire remains active but is under steady control due to ongoing boundary cooling and firefighting efforts.

MSC Elsa 3 owner told to begin oil extraction

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Director-General of Shipping issued an ultimatum to the owner of *MSC Elsa 3*, the ship that sank off the coast of Kerala on May 25, for the extraction of oil from the ship in 48 hours.

In a letter addressed to MSC Ship Management Limited, Cyprus, Shyam Jagannathan, Director General of Shipping, said the consistent inaction and delay by the owners represent a violation of statutory obligations.

Kamal Haasan among six elected unopposed to Rajya Sabha

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

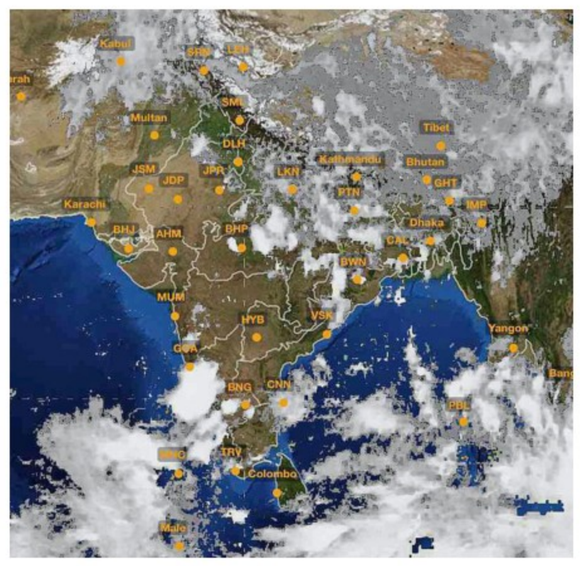
Actor and MNM founder Kamal Haasan; former Additional Advocate General and incumbent MP P. Wilson; poet Rajathi, alias Salma; and S.R. Sivalingam – all backed by the DMK and its allies – were on Thursday declared elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha from Tamil Nadu. The AIADMK's I.S. Inbadurai and M. Dhanapal were also elected unopposed to the Upper House.

Addressing the media, B. Subramaniyam, Returning Officer and Additional Secretary, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Secretariat, said that since the number of seats for which elections were to be held and the number of valid nominations were the same, the candidates had been declared elected unopposed. While a total of 13 nominations were received, only six were found valid during scrutiny. Except for Mr. Wilson, all others would be first-time Rajya Sabha members.

This election also marks the entry of the MNM into the Rajya Sabha, and the exit of the MDMK (which still has representation in the Lok Sabha) and the PMK from the Upper House. The election was required as the tenure of six MPs would end in July. With these results, the DMK's strength in the Rajya Sabha remains 10, while the AIADMK's strength increases by one.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Uttarakhand, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Mahe and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	3	35.8	26.2	Kozhikode	10	32.8	24.5
Ahmedabad	—	41.9	28.8	Kurnool	25	31.8	24.4
Aizawl	13	33.6	20.9	Lucknow	—	44.0	31.2
Allahabad	—	44.0	31.8	Madurai	—	38.7	26.7
Bengaluru	5	28.8	21.0	Mangaluru	113	27.0	23.1
Bhopal	0.4	41.0	27.4	Mumbai	2.1	34.1	28.0
Bhubaneswar	12.2	30.8	25.5	Mysuru	13	30.2	20.4
Chandigarh	—	41.7	31.8	New Delhi	—	43.9	30.7
Chennai	0.4	37.2	25.4	Patna	—	40.1	31.6
Coimbatore	—	32.2	22.6	Port Blair	45.5	28.0	24.4
Dehradun	7	37.1	27.2	Puducherry	82.8	34.0	24.4
Gangtok	5	27.0	18.8	Pune	7	32.8	23.9
Goa	19	27.5	25.7	Raipur	—	37.8	27.7
Guwahati	1	37.5	25.7	Ranchi	—	33.8	23.5
Hubballi	—	28.0	23.0	Shillong	0.2	29.0	18.6
Hyderabad	—	32.7	24.3	Shimla	—	32.2	24.2
Imphal	—	33.3	27.7	Srinagar	—	34.2	18.4
Jaipur	—	45.0	32.2	Thiruvananthapuram	28	31.3	23.5
Kochi	71	29.4	23.4	Tiruchi	—	36.7	27.0
Kohima	—	30.5	19.0	Vijayawada	0.6	35.0	26.6
Kolkata	—	35.9	28.0	Visakhapatnam	22	33.0	25.7

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	9	78	17	64	74	
Bengaluru	20	41	45	30	65	
Chennai	9	14	65	57	56	
Delhi	22	71	41	213	177	
Hyderabad	—	15	47	78	100	
Kolkata	3	64	21	51	49	
Lucknow	9	34	98	152	122	
Mumbai	3	69	21	28	75	
Pune	—	32	88	36	42	
Visakhapatnam	10	54	23	59	69	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Khanna, Punjab recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 255 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 13

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
BANGALORE URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH
Office of the Chief Executive Officer,
Zilla Panchayath Bangalore Urban District,
S.Kariyappa Road, Banashankari, Bangalore-560070.
Phone No:080-26710580, Website: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

No: ಬೆಂಜಿಪಂ:ಖಾಡಿ–2/NRLM/48/2024-25 **Dated:09.06.2025**

E-TENDER SCHEDULE

E-tenders have been invited from organizations interested in providing human resource services to the Sanjeevini District Campaign Management Unit and Taluk Campaign Management Unit at the Bangalore City Zilla Panchayat Office.

E-TENDER FOR ENGAGING MANPOWER AGENCY UNDER NATIONAL RURAL LIVELIHOOD MISSION

1	APPROXIMATE VALUE OF TENDER	Rs 1,57,08,000.00
2	EMD AMOUNT	Rs 2,35,6200.00
3	TENDER COMMENCEMENT DATE	**10-06-2025**
4	LAST DATE AND TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS	**17-06-2025 5.00 PM**
5	TIME AND DATE OF OPENING OF TECHNICAL BIDS	**18-06-2025 5.10 PM**
6	TIME AND DATE OF OPENING OF FINANCIAL BIDS	**20-06-2025 11.00AM**
7	LETTER OF INTENT	As per KPP Portal
8	CONTRACT PERIOD	2 YEARS
9	PLACE OF OPENING TENDERS	OFFICE OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BANGALORE URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH, S. Kariyappa Road, BANGALORE-560070.

DIPR/CP/AAA/1198/2025-26 **Sd/- Chief Executive Officer, Bangalore Urban Zilla Panchayath, Bangalore**

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.
Ph.: 04324-277001 (10 Lines). Email : purchase.trans@tnpl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Nature of Work	Due date
252613 001799	Transportation of Paper Reels / Bundles / Boxes from TNPL Unit - I at Kagithapuram to various branches / destinations throughout India.	30.06.2025

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website & NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions, tender fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

DIPR/3000/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

DEPUTATION NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited for the post of Director (Information Systems) in Finance Department, **on deputation basis,** from officers working in Central / State / Public Sector Undertakings / Autonomous Bodies or **on contract basis,** having B.Tech in any discipline/ MCA with a minimum 15 years experience in IT related projects / Project Life Cycle Management out of which at least 5 years should be in a senior management level.

Applications along with necessary documents should be submitted through proper channel with advance copy to the Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department, Government Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram **on or before 30.06.2025.**

Applicants once appeared for the interview shall not apply for the post again.

For more details please visit **www.finance.kerala.gov.in** (Phone No.0471- 2518320)

F4/206/2025/I&PRD **ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY (FINANCE)**

Administrative Training Institute
Lalitha Mahal Road, Mysore -570011
Phone : 0821-2520906/2443835/2443265/2522142
e-mail : dg-atimysore@gmail.com
Website : atimysore.karnataka.gov.in, sirdmysuru.karnataka.gov.in & siudmysore.gov.in

No: ATI/2/TND/TEND/2025-JD-ATI **Date:** 10.06.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Administrative Training Institute, Mysore and State Institute for Urban Development (Functioning in ATI Campus), Mysore is inviting tender through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for providing Horticulture Maintenance Service for a period of One year and Subject to extension for the further period of 03 months. Registered eligible firms/organizations can submit their bids through the Karnataka Public Procurement portal Website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Details of the tender are as follows:

Sl. No.	Details of the Service	Approximate Amount	E.M.D.
1	Tender through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for providing Horticulture Maintenance Service for Administrative Training Institute and State Institute for Urban Development (Functioning in ATI Campus), Mysore for a period of one year and Subject to extension for the further period of 03 months.	**Rs. 97,95,823/-**	**Rs. 1,95,916/-**

The tender documents can be viewed on the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal from **11.06.2025 at 11:30AM.** The last date for the submission of bid is **10.07.2025 at 5:30 (Evening).** The Tender bids will be opened on **14.07.2025 at 11:30** in the Morning. Further information can be obtained from the above mentioned address

Sd/-
Joint Director (Admin)
Administrative Training Institute, Mysuru

DIPR/MYS/KAVITA/442/2025-26

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.49, 4th & 5th Floor, East Wing, Khanija Bhavan,
Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560001. Phone No. 080-22265383
Website: www.kiadb.in email: cdoce1@kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-22/431/2025-26 **Date: 12.06.2025**

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GoK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Item Rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following works as per the schedule given below:

Name of the work: Formation of Industrial Layout, including Construction of Roads, RCC Side Drains, Utility Ducts, Culverts & HDPE Water supply pipeline at Sira Industrial Area Phase 2, Sira Taluk, Tumakuru District.

Applicants may download bidding documents from the e-procurement portal **htpps://kppp.karnataka. gov.in**.

Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: **18.07.2025 up to 04:00 pm.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1
K.I.A.D.B, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/1216/AKAR/2025-26

Karnataka Tourism Infrastructure Limited
(A Government Undertaking)
CIN :U70100KA2015SGC081817
Karnataka One State, Many worlds Department of Tourism
#54, 5th Floor, Indhana Bhavana, Racecourse Road, Opposite Renaissance Hotel, Bangalore-560001. Ph (080) 22352828. Fax: (080) 22352626

No: KTIL/YO-01/MYS.DIV/60/2024-25 **Date: 12.06.2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Executive Engineer, Karnataka Tourism Infrastructure Limited Bangalore, Invited the Tender for Development of Tourism Activities and other amenities of Karnataka Tourism at (Karnataka public procurement portal) **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. The details of the Tender & Calendar of Events are available at **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Portal.

Sl. No	Work Name	Event Date
1.	Development of Tourism Activities and other amenities of Sasihithlu Beach, Dakshina Kannada District. Part - A Surfing Side. **Indent No: KTIL/2024-25/OW/ WORK_INDENT25 (Call-2)**	Date of Pre Bid Meeting: **18.06.2025 15:00 Hrs.** Last date for submitting proposals: **23.06.2025 16:00 Hrs.** Opening of Technical Proposal: **24.06.2025 17:00 Hrs.**
2.	Development of Tourism Activities and other amenities of Sasihithlu Beach, Dakshina Kannada District. Part - B Cottage Side. **Indent No: KTIL/2024-25/OW/ WORK_INDENT26 (Call-2)**	
3.	Selection of Project Development and Management Consultant (PDMC) for Comprehensive Development of Anjanadri Hill (Phase-2), Koppal District. **Indent No: KTIL/2025-26/SE0045.**	Date of Pre Bid Meeting: **17.06.2025 12:00 Hrs.** Last date for submitting proposals: **26.06.2025 16:00 Hrs.** Opening of Technical Proposal: **27.06.2025 17:00 Hrs.**

Postponement of Calendar of events (if any), subsequent notification, changes, amendments and selection/rejection of proposal shall be intimated only through Karnataka public procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers. Department of Tourism reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reasons thereof.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer and Tender Inviting Authority, KTIL, Bangalore.

DIPR/CP/1197/ZEN/2024-25

ADVERTISEMENT

"ENGAGEMENT DRIVE FOR BATTALIONS OF ODISHA SPECIAL STRIKING FORCE (OSSF)"

The engagement drive in the rank of Sepoys/NCOs for 3 OSSF Battalions in Odisha Police has been continuing on every Monday. If any holiday falls on that day, the drive is conducted succeeding working day. This is notified that, in view of the Car Festival of Lord Shree Jagannath at Puri, Odisha, the engagement drive will be postponed from 16.06.2025 to 07.07.2025. The engagement drive will again commence from Monday 14th July, 2025, onwards, as earlier.

Sd/-
I.G. of Police (Operations), Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

D-104 : OIPR-12110/11/0022/2526

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-14/433/2025-26 **Date: 12.06.2025**

CANCELLATION OF TENDER

Ref: This office Tender Notification No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-14/343/ 2025-26 Date: 21.05.2025.

In furtherance to this office tender notification cited under reference above, the works of **(1)** Jungle Clearance and provide road furniture at Badanaguppe-Kellamballi Industrial Area, Chamarajanagar Taluk & District (Road No.3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 9B & 10) (3rd Call). & **(2)** Jungle Clearance and provide road furniture at Badanaguppe-Kellamballi Industrial Area, Chamarajanagar Taluk & District (Road No. 8,1,2 & 14) (3rd Call), is hereby cancelled.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/1214/Zen/2025-26

ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಆಕುಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಎನ್.ಪಿ.ಹೆಸ್ತ್ರೆ ಆವರಣ, ನಜರ್‌ಬಾದ್, ಮೈಸೂರು–10.
(ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 0821–2979772 ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: -khsdrp.divmys@gmail.com)

ಸಂ: ಆಕುಕ/ಇಂ.ವಿ./ಕಾ.ಆ/ಮೈ/ಸಇ–3&4/ಟೆಂಡರ್–21/4ನೇ ಕರೆ/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06.06.2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು ರವರಿಂದ ಯೋಜನಾ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರನ್ನು ನೇಮಿಸಲು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ದ್ವಿ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ವೇದಿಕೆ (Karnataka Public Procurement portal) ಮೂಲಕ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ವಿವರ: **(1)** Up gradation of Infrastructure facilities to the TLH and staff Quarters at Holenarasipura in Hassan District **(2)** Up gradation of PHC to CHC at Doddakunche in Holenarasipura Taluk, Hassan District **(3)** Construction of Doctors, Nurses and Group D Quarters to CHC at Hallimysuru in Holenarasipura Taluk, Hassan District. (Pkg-4) (Call-4) ಯೋಜನಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ): **6,40,357.80,** ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ): **16,000.00, ಕಾಲಾವಧಿ :** ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳ್ಳುವವರೆಗೂ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ವಿವರಗಳು:– 1) ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ : **23.06.2025ರ ಸಂಜೆ 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ** 2) ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ : **24.06.2025ರ ಸಂಜೆ 16.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ**

ಸೂಚನೆ : 1) ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ಮುಂದೂಡುವ/ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ರದ್ದುಗೊಳಿಸುವ/ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಿರಾಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. 2) ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸವಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಅದನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ (www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.) ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು
ಆಕುಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

DIPR/MYS/448/SA/2025-26

A good fix

Measures to curb agent, bot booking on IRCTC will benefit passengers

The e-ticketing system of the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) is one of India's most widely used e-commerce platforms. Crores of Indian rail commuters and passengers use it to book their tickets, which makes it imperative that the system is run robustly. The scale of the operation is revealing – on May 22, 2025, the IRCTC processed a staggering 31,814 tickets in 60 seconds to set a new record. Yet, the popular e-ticketing system, especially the Tatkal booking part, is plagued by issues. Extremely high demand during peak hours, particularly during the designated Tatkal booking window period, often leads to crashes and slow performance. A major concern is that the system is exploited by ticketing agents who use unfair automated tools (or bots), leading to rapidly dwindling ticket availability for passengers. These issues are what prompted the IRCTC to announce two major steps. The first was a major digital overhaul of the ticketing infrastructure using anti-bot systems to prevent unauthorised automated bookings – a measure that led to the de-activation of a whopping 2.5 crore suspect user IDs. Implementation of a content delivery network also helped improve website performance. In addition, Aadhaar verification is necessary immediately after a ticket is booked. The IRCTC has also mandated Aadhaar authentication for all Tatkal bookings, from July 1, along with OTP-based authentication. Authorised agents have been restricted from booking Tatkal tickets during the first 30 minutes of the booking window period.

The idea behind an e-ticketing platform and the provision of Tatkal booking of tickets are to provide equitable chances for passengers to travel. Despite more train services having been introduced over the years by the Indian Railways, which is a state monopoly, demand far outstrips supply, and passengers have to rely on advanced booking and Tatkal tickets for their travel. When agents use bots to game the system, it kills the purpose of equity. Therefore, the IRCTC's steps will bring relief to passengers. That said, the Indian Railways must focus not only on easing the process of ticketing but also on elevating the passenger experience in terms of increasing its train and track capacity to fulfil travel demand, ensuring safety and enhancing its facilities. Seen in this context, while these ticketing fixes are important, the true test for the Indian Railways will be its ability to move beyond just technical and administrative solutions and undertake a fundamental expansion of its services to serve India's large passenger clientele. In a way, meaningful expansion to meet the demand will also obviate the need for reworking technological solutions yet again in the future.

Out of the abyss

South Korea needs to expand trade ties with major countries

When the then South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol declared martial law in December 2024, his objective was to bypass the opposition-controlled National Assembly and rule with the support of the military. He had also planned to arrest opposition politicians, including Lee Jae-myung, the head of the Democratic Party, his bête noire. But the move backfired dramatically, leading to his abrupt downfall and paving the way for Mr. Lee's ascent to the presidency. In the June 3 election, which was necessitated by the impeachment of Mr. Yoon, Mr. Lee, a progressive liberal, won 49.4% votes, defeating Kim Moon-soo of Mr. Yoon's conservative People Power Party, who secured 41.2% votes. The peaceful and democratic transition, following a period of chaos and turmoil, is a testament to the strong fundamentals of South Korea's young democracy. For a nation that endured decades of brutal military dictatorship, the imposition of martial law was tantamount to cutting open the old wounds. South Koreans, both the political class and civilians, offered resistance. Mr. Yoon's political collapse unfolded so fast that future leaders would think twice before undermining the country's democratic institutions. Still, the election of Mr. Lee is only the first step in restoring order and stability.

Mr. Lee, who survived legal challenges and an assassination attempt last year, enters the Blue House with a strong mandate. His party is in a majority in the National Assembly, giving him legislative leeway. However, while those responsible for the martial law fiasco must be held accountable, he must resist the temptation to turn this into a political witch-hunt. On the economy front, Mr. Lee should take swift measures, including the implementation of a promised stimulus package to jump start growth. Just last month, the central bank cut the country's full-year economic forecast by half to 0.8% amid trade and tariff concerns. In foreign policy, Mr. Lee faces a complex balancing act. During the campaign, he had said that the U.S. was "the basis axis of our diplomacy", but expressed a desire to improve commercial ties with China, the largest trading partner. Under Mr. Yoon, relations with China took a hit, and tensions with North Korea escalated. In a first step to improve inter-Korean relations, Mr. Lee decided to turn off loudspeakers on the border that had been broadcasting K-pop songs and propaganda. He has said he does not want South Korea to be reliant only on the U.S. To that end, what he must do is to invest in peace on the Korean Peninsula and expand Seoul's relationship with major powers, while preserving its strategic partnership with the U.S.

Trump's tariffs and a U.S.-India trade agreement

R.V. Anuradha

is a Partner at Clarus Law Associates, New Delhi

At the end of the day, it was not the big fight between nations, but a case brought by five small U.S. businesses that presented the biggest challenge yet, to U.S. President Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs.

Tariffs are the substance of laws and regulations formulated after highly rigorous trade negotiations. The binding of tariffs through schedules of commitments in trade agreements, offers much needed certainty and predictability to businesses trading across borders. Which is why Mr. Trump's sweeping tariffs – 10% to 135%, over 100 countries worldwide – were a stunning repudiation of the rules of trade. That it also extended to the barren Arctic marine reserves of Heard and McDonald Islands, uninhabited by humans, just highlighted the irony of a bizarre executive order.

This sweeping executive action also upended the fundamental principle of separation of powers between the three branches of government – the legislature, the executive and the judiciary – which lie at the heart of any democratic constitutional framework. That such an exercise of executive authority could happen without any checks and balances in the U.S., widely regarded as among the modern world's oldest democracies with a strong constitutional framework, was another point of reckoning.

Five small and mid-sized U.S. businesses, dealing with wines, plastics, bicycles, musical circuits, and fishing equipment, took on the U.S. administration, and challenged the presidential executive order at the U.S. Court of International Trade (U.S. CIT), stating that the tariffs were unlawfully harming their operations and economic viability.

A closer look at 'trade deficits'

The Trump administration argued that the tariffs were necessary to address the "national emergency" created by U.S.' trade deficits with all countries worldwide. Trade deficit occurs when imports exceed exports. A "deficit" is not necessarily bad for a country's economic health. It only demonstrates the availability of consumer wealth to purchase imported goods. In any event, the U.S. administration, bizarrely, did not account for U.S. export of services in its calculation. For example, the U.S. has cited the $44.4 billion trade deficit with India. This, however, does not consider trade in services (which includes digital services, financial services, education) and arms trade, after considering which, the Global Trade Research Initiative has estimated that the U.S. actually runs a $35 billion-$40 billion overall surplus with India.

> India should stay out of any sub-optimal deal with the United States

The U.S. CIT, in its judgment dated May 28, 2025, ruled that the worldwide and retaliatory tariffs exceeded any authority under law. The court cautioned against the blatant and overarching use of "national emergency" powers by the President. It noted that the mere incantation of "national emergency" cannot sound the "death-knell of the Constitution", and, additionally, cannot enable the President to rewrite tariff commitments in international agreements.

The strong and powerful ruling, so far, has had little practical impact, having been stayed the very next day by a U.S. appeals court. The tariffs and the threat of tariffs, therefore, continue, and so does the pressure to conclude a trade deal with the U.S. The Trump administration had in fact, argued before the U.S. CIT that the enhanced tariffs provided it leverage in trade negotiations – an argument which the CIT ruled does not in any manner mitigate its legal infirmity. More egregious U.S. executive actions are promised as part of the Trump One Big Beautiful Bill (OBBB) – a proposed omnibus law which would reportedly also grant the executive immunity from enforcement of judicial orders.

Where India stands

Where does all this really leave India? The governments of both countries have been indicating an early conclusion of a trade agreement, before the U.S. threat of the July 8 deadline. Despite ongoing negotiations, the U.S. has enhanced its existing punitive tariffs of 25% on steel and 10% on aluminium imports (in force since Mr. Trump's first term), to 50% on both. Pursuant to complaints initiated at the World Trade Organization by Switzerland, Norway, China and Türkiye, WTO panels had ruled (in 2022) that the tariffs imposed during Mr. Trump's first term, do not meet the proposed justification of national security. India too had initiated a WTO dispute, but withdrew this on the basis of a "mutually agreed solution" with the U.S. in 2023. That mutual solution clearly did not prevent Trump administration extending the new 50% tariffs on steel and aluminium to India as well. India's contemplated retaliation at the WTO has been resisted by the U.S. A purported target of the Trump administration's ire is China's rise. The argument that the U.S.-China trade impasse presents a possible strategic advantage for India, however, is made uncertain by two recent developments: the U.S. and China's truce, pausing their retaliatory tariffs against each other and working towards a negotiated solution; and, more importantly, the U.S. administration's threats to impose tariffs on Apple's products, should it manufacture in India. Mr. Trump's transactional approach also indicates that there is no guarantee that the U.S. will intervene in India's favour should there be a military standoff with China.

The path ahead

In any trade agreement with the U.S., therefore, a careful balancing of India's interests is paramount. Any deal would need to ensure the removal of all additional tariffs on India's exports, allay concerns about retaliatory tariffs on U.S. investments, such as that from Apple in India, and ensure that the proposed OBBB Act's 3.5% tax on remittances sent from the U.S. does not apply to remittances by Indian citizens. India should also seek assurance that there would be no retaliation against India's digital services taxes. A long-standing concern for India is also the fears and backlash against H-1B visas, used widely by tech companies for their Indian employees. It is critical for a trade deal to address the issue of visas required for services trade.

It is equally important for both sides to iron out the delivery of cross-border trade in services, which includes aspects relating to data flows and their regulation.

Above all, any trade agreement that India negotiates with the U.S. needs to be fully aligned with India's commitments under the WTO. The U.S. disregard for multilateral institutions, notwithstanding, WTO's multilateral set of rules is the only real safeguard in an uncertain world, and India needs to do much more to preserve its foundations, as committed during its G-20 presidency.

Finally, India should have the ability to stay out of any sub-optimal deal. Mr. Trump's tariffs, while painful, are likely to have a short lifespan with the biggest challenge emerging from within the U.S. itself.

The views expressed are personal

Urbanisation and the challenge of ideal transit solutions

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Among the various aspects of Viksit Bharat by 2047, an urbanised India is sure to be a principal one as it is expected that urban India will be the engine of growth in this transformation. Let us note that over 60% of India's population would move from low-productive rural India to highly productive urban India by the 2060s.

Clearly, the mobility of people on such a large scale within cities, from their residential quarters to work areas, will be a test for urban planners. While policymakers have plans to construct smart cities, where the need for the mobility of workers will be substantially reduced, the fact remains that, unlike China, we do not see many of the newly emerging smart cities coming of age. In contrast, the metros/existing tier 1 cities are on an ever-expanding spree, leading to rising challenges for policymakers, such as meeting the transportation demand of workers.

Rising to the challenge

The government is increasingly focused on augmenting the public transport system to meet the urban mobility challenge. This year's Budget saw the launch of the PM e-Bus Sewa-Payment Security Mechanism, with the aim of improving urban bus transportation in India (nearly 10,000 urban buses). The PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM e-Drive) scheme was introduced, which will support the procurement of 14,000 new e-buses, 1,10,000 e-rickshaws, e-trucks, and e-ambulances. However, according to estimates, India needs 2,00,000 urban buses, but only 35,000 are operational (including e-buses). This is far below the requirement.

Another initiative has been the greater emphasis on building metro networks and a higher allocation of funds in multiple metro/tier I cities to cater to the high density. This is in line with the trend seen in the recent Budget.

> Planners in India need to look at whether they are investing in the most sustainable and cost-effective transit solutions

However, as the Economic Survey that was released on the eve of the Budget on January 31, has cited, only 37% of urban residents in India have easy access to public transportation. In contrast, in Brazil and China, more than 50% of urban residents have convenient access to mass transit. Clearly, India is too far behind in developing an efficient public system.

The development of a metro network is a long-term and costly venture. Much of it has been developed with the Centre's funding. And invariably, most have yet to recover their total costs (which includes fixed and operational costs). In almost all metros, the ridership projected in the project document has still to be matched. So, recovering the cost may be a difficult proposition unless the route lies along a high-density route. Also, it has been observed that users are extremely fare sensitive – a fare rise invariably leads to a fall in footfalls. Invariably, consumers seek out their ways keeping in mind comfort, time and cost due to the high cost of last-mile connectivity from metro stations to their work/residence points.

Unlike in some developed countries where public transport is highly subsidised in order to make metro transportation cheap, our government is not financially rich enough to dole out recurrent and large subsidies.

Seeking alternatives

India also needs cost-effective, road-based public transport for better last-mile connectivity. This year's Budget has increased allocations for urban bus systems, thus continuing efforts to boost capacity, especially in the metros. However, private investment remains limited due to uncertain returns. Government funds have shifted from CNG to more expensive e-buses. Future bottom-up transport models may focus on road-based modes that use electric, CNG, hydrogen, or biofuel technologies. Yet, they often overlook trams and trolleybuses, which, based on a life cycle cost and revenue analysis, can outperform e-buses in financial terms and deserve serious policy consideration in India's urban transport planning.

Some estimates

Revenue generation and economic viability over time are the necessary parameters to estimate whether urban road-based public transport has a financial deficit or is making a profit in its life cycle. Analysing the profit and loss (P&L) percentages for various public transport modes will help in accurate decision-making on adopting a future transit. We find that trams show a 45% long-term profitability over seven decades, the usual life cycle of the tram, along with scalability and alignment with climate goals. In contrast, an e-bus system, which is currently the preferred mode on Indian roads, fails to maintain profitability due to high operational and replacement costs, resulting in a net loss of 82% over seven decades. Though moderately efficient, trolleybuses fall short of matching the overall benefits of trams, incurring a minimal loss over the specified time frame.

This raises a critical question. Are we truly investing in the most sustainable and cost-effective transit solutions, or are we chasing a future dependent on continuous public subsidies? The planned introduction of trams in Kochi could mark a game-changing moment in India's urban mobility story. Reviving our past is not just a nostalgic choice of what Kolkata thinks – it is a smart and timely move toward a more sustainable and financially viable transport future.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Air accident

The accident to an Air India flight, from Ahmedabad to the United Kingdom, is shocking. We pray for the souls who were on board the plane and wish their families strength and courage. Though the investigation into the crash may take some time, airlines in India should ensure that there are no compromises when it comes to the safety of the air passenger.

A.J. Rangarajan,
Chennai

Limited progress

The progress being made as far as an India-U.S. trade deal is concerned (Page 1 "India, U.S. inch closer to limited trade agreement", June 12) is encouraging, especially amid global economic uncertainty. While an initial "mini-deal" is welcome, India and the United States must resist piecemeal compromises. Instead, they must pursue a holistic, fair, and mutually beneficial pact.

Tariff reductions and market access should be reciprocal, not one-sided. India must safeguard its domestic interests while opening its doors for innovation and investment. A deadline-driven approach, with transparency, will strengthen trust and global credibility.

Dr. Vijay Kumar H.K.,
Raichur, Karnataka

NCERT textbooks

While the National Council of Educational Research and Training is designed to educate children through textbooks that could help them grow as knowledgeable and educated youth, missing portions on the farm sector and farmers is worrying ("New NCERT text books don't carry 'poverty and colonized' narratives", June 11).

Children should know, and be taught early on, that India is basically an agricultural country and that the farm sector is very crucial. Ground reality should be a priority in the syllabus. A recent article that said 2026 will be observed as the year of women in agriculture. Should not there be thinking about the agriculture sector?

Balasubramaniam Pavani,
Secunderabad

Maximum Mumbai

The tragic and unfortunate incident of passengers dying while travelling on a Mumbai local train shows that the Railways have miles to go in ensuring the safety of commuters. The overcrowding on these trains was a common sight especially during peak hours when I was a commuter between Thane and Mumbai CST in 1992. When we realise that not much has changed over three decades, it points to serious lapses in the planning, the development and the implementation of basic infrastructure, which is the lifeline of Mumbaikars. I have seen trains operating in Dubai and Japan, and I have travelled on the Dubai Metro for three years, from 2009.

There are a few measures that the Railways and the Government can adopt to minimise such accidents. To flatten the peak in passenger volume, office hours can be staggered. The Railways can increase the frequency of local trains. Providing automatic sliding doors is also needed. More coaches and vestibules to connect them would be ideal.

Jiji Panicker K.
Chengannur, Kerala

With over 80 lakh daily commuters, Mumbai's suburban train system is arguably one of the busiest. Yet, overcrowding, outdated infrastructure, and a lack of real-time monitoring are hurdles. The incident serves as a grim reminder of the urgent need to modernise Mumbai's railway system — not technologically alone, but also structurally and administratively.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Is Bangladesh slipping into authoritarianism?

Smruti S. Pattanaik,
Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses

Sanjay Pulipaka,
Chairperson of the Politeia Research Foundation

PARLEY

On June 7, on the eve of Eid ul Azha, the Chief Adviser to the interim government in Bangladesh, Dr. Muhammad Yunus, delivered a televised address to the nation, promising to hold elections in April 2026. He also announced that the country would witness the launch of the 'July Proclamation', which had been earlier planned by student activists to "bury" the Constitution of Bangladesh, as it is linked to the founder of Bangladesh and Awami League co-founder, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Prof. Yunus said that the document will "include a list of reform proposals, agreed upon by all parties, aimed at building a welfare-oriented state." As the interim government of Bangladesh has announced that there could be constitutional reforms, there are concerns about the country's political direction. Some worry that democratic progress has stalled. Is Bangladesh slipping into authoritarianism? Smruti S. Pattanaik and Sanjay Pulipaka discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Kallol Bhattacherjee**. Edited excerpts:

What prompted the unusually aggressive tone of Professor Yunus in his Eid speech?

Smruti S. Pattanaik: Prof. Yunus has been under a lot of pressure recently. The Army chief, General Waker-Uz-Zaman, insisted in his meeting with commanding officers that elections need to be held by the end of the year. Whenever he (Prof. Yunus) faces challenges, he refers to internal and external threats and defeated forces. The BNP (Bangladesh Nationalist Party) said that the speech was expected to be just an Eid greeting, but ended up being about everything in the country. Prof. Yunus had promised elections earlier too, saying they would be held as early as December 2025. All his reforms do not have any meaning as he is not running an elected government. He is clearly trying to lengthen the term of the interim government.

Sanjay Pulipaka: We need to remember that there is nothing 'interim' about this government. Interim governments come for a short period of time to achieve certain specific objectives, such as conducting elections. For instance, in 1990, a caretaker government came into place in Bangladesh. It was given a 90-day mandate to conduct elections, shut shop, and hand over things to the next government.

What we are seeing now is unique. We are seeing an interim government carrying out constitutional reforms. Interim governments are not constituent assemblies and they are not parliaments; they are arrangements to pave the way for the elected government. They are supposed to leave the bigger issues to the elected government. So, what we are seeing in Bangladesh is undemocratic, and this is of interest to us since it is happening in our neighbourhood.

Chief Adviser to the Government of Bangladesh, Professor Muhammed Yunus. REUTERS

While an interim administration will need to carry out some reforms, actual major reforms can be conducted only by an elected government. The scale at which this interim government is trying to go about its reforms is frightening. It is going on extending its tenure. One of the largest political parties is banned (Awami League). The BNP, the other big political party, is unhappy with the way things are happening. With the major political parties absent from the picture, some political parties with an unhealthy agenda are stepping into the political space.

Do you think the July Proclamation is going to replace the 1972 Constitution that was framed after the Liberation War of 1971?

SSP: That seems to be the objective. The interim government seems to want to ensure that the legacy of 1971 does not remain relevant. I think it wants to make July 2024 the starting point of the students' political movement and a new chapter in Bangladesh's polity. In the history of Bangladesh, December and August are special months (December 16 marks Victory Day, commemorating the country's independence in 1971, and August is associated with the assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman). But now, the attempt is to highlight the month of July as a new beginning.

> It appears that the charter of July 2024 will be used to bring some sort of legitimacy to the interim government of Prof. Yunus as elections are at least 10 months away
> **SMRUTI S. PATTANAIK**

The idea of bringing out a July Proclamation highlighting the anti-Sheikh Hasina upheaval is something that the BNP is also not comfortable with. The July Charter may not entirely replace the Constitution, but it is a kind of charter which will guide the state. Bangladesh's Constitution had four foundational principles: secularism, democracy, Bengali nationalism, and liberation. Similar features will be part of the July charter too, but they will support the political orientation of the students and the leading figures in the interim government.

We don't know whether the BNP will sign the July Proclamation ultimately. But it appears that the charter of July 2024 will be used to bring some sort of legitimacy to the interim government of Prof. Yunus as elections are at least 10 months away and the current administration wants to implement its agenda in the meantime.

SP: There is no clarity about the July Proclamation. Who is designing it? What is going to be included in it? The interim government is claiming that the charter is based on consensus with political parties. But how can there be consensus in the current political situation? Basically, these are all things that an unelected government is trying to do. Radical religious groups will try to find more and more legitimacy and space. They will try and get into the political process and claim victories when they are not even contesting with the major political parties of the country. We have seen this happening in Myanmar as well. It will push the country into more and more political turmoil.

Prof. Yunus also made a passionate argument in favour of the 'humanitiarian corridor' to help the Rakhine province of Myanmar. A corridor of this nature has to be demilitarised and if it is demilitarised, who is going to enforce the demilitarised status? Will it be the Bangladesh military or an international force?

SSP: These are the concerns that we have in India and Bangladesh. A humanitarian corridor is generally monitored by the United Nations. And as you said, it sometimes gets demilitarised. The Bangladesh Army chief objected to this saying international monitoring or enforcement will be interpreted as violation of sovereignty. As a country that sacrificed a large number of human lives to gain independence, sovereignty is a sacred feature of the state.

Second, how can they be sure that the humanitarian aid that is going into Myanmar through the humanitarian corridor will reach only the Rohingya and not armed groups? This issue is of particular importance for us in India as there is no word about who is going to monitor this corridor. There is also no clarity about how this corridor will actually help the Rohingya. There is also concern that the corridor could be used by international armed groups to smuggle weapons into Myanmar and to other destinations, which will have a spillover effect on India.

The BNP has been unable to take advantage of the situation though it criticised the Yunus government in a major rally on May 28 for delaying elections. Why is the BNP Acting Chairman, Tarique Rahman, not returning to Bangladesh?

SSP: I think there are cases against him, which have not been withdrawn. There are murmurs within the BNP about why the interim government has not withdrawn the cases against Tarique Rahman yet. He has not been able to return as the circumstances are not yet conducive for it. But having said that, since the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government, the BNP has been making the right noises about everything. Despite the absence of Tarique Rahman from Dhaka for nearly 18 years, senior leaders of the standing committee have managed the party very well. There have been many attempts to weaken and break the party over the past several years, including after the interim government took charge, but Tarique Rahman's hold over the party remains evident.

The elections will ultimately determine the future of the BNP, especially the percentage of votes that the BNP will get and also the extent to which the Islamist parties will be accommodated by the voters.

That apart, the National Citizens Party was launched recently by the advisers who were part of the interim government under Prof. Yunus. The BNP has been referring to the NCP as the 'King's Party'. So, there is also fear in the BNP that the interim administration could help the NCP to win certain seats.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

From celebration to tragedy: all in a day's work

Reporters in Bengaluru had sketched out a detailed plan to cover the excitement following RCB's victory, but ended up covering a stampede

Jahnavi T.R.

There was victory in the air in Bengaluru on June 4. After a 17-year-long wait, the city's favourite franchise, Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), had clinched the trophy in the Indian Premier League (IPL) the previous night. The team was landing in Bengaluru from Ahmedabad, and a victory parade was being planned. For a city reporter, this meant a long day.

At around 10 a.m., the reporting team got on a conference call to plan the stories. We discussed how the city had not slept after the victory, how fans from the city had travelled to Ahmedabad to watch the final match, and how people on the Internet had created a thousand different memes and reels.

We also discussed threadbare how we would cover the proposed victory parade. We anticipated that the Central Business District (CBD), where our office is located, would be choked with vehicles from the afternoon as the victory parade was scheduled to begin after 3 p.m.

While loyal newspaper readers may be willing to wait for more than a day to read about the celebrations that unfolded that night in Bengaluru, online readers move on to other websites if the stories they are looking for are not uploaded on time. So, before leaving for office that morning, I filed some stories on the fan frenzy, describing how firecrackers had kept the skies aglow the previous night, people had danced madly on the streets, and bike rallies had kept everyone awake.

My plan was simple: get to office early, file the special stories for the day, and keep the evening free as a great deal of coordination was necessary for covering such a mammoth event. An army of interns was stationed at multiple points at the city to watch the parade pass by.

By around 1 p.m., fans clad in RCB colours begin to gather in CBD. I noted it down to draw a timeline later in the day. By 3 p.m., I finished filing three stories on the celebrations for online.

But shortly, the unexpected happened. As lakhs of fans gathered around the M. Chinnaswamy stadium and Vidhana Soudha, we first got the news that a woman had lost consciousness. Then, more bad news trickled in: a person had died due to a "stampede-like situation". My colleague immediately checked with her hospital sources and found that at least four people had died. Within an hour, seeing the raucous crowd, we knew that the numbers would climb into double-digits. It did not take too long for us to find out that 11 people had died, and most of them very young.

The mood quickly shifted in the newsroom, just as it did in the rest of the city. We decided that the stories of celebrations would no longer be reported for the print edition. I frantically called the interns one after another to make sure they were safe, and asked them to come back to office. All the reporters in the newsroom breathed a sigh of relief when the last intern made it back to the office.

Then it was the turn of senior reporters to fan out. One went to the stadium, another to the hospital near the stadium, and yet another to the mortuary at the government hospital.

After gathering inputs from multiple sources, colleagues, and eyewitnesses, I wrote a detailed story on how the celebrations quickly turned into a tragedy. I ended up drawing a timeline, but it was not the one I had planned earlier. There were steady developments. Reporters kept filing stories – about the chaos, the mismanagement, the panic, and the grief – without a break. They filed enough stories to fill nearly all the city pages.

At around 11 p.m., I was finally done with work. When I made my way back home, the air was heavy with mourning. The city, which had been alive with celebrations just 24 hours ago, had fallen completely silent.

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK | Fields of prawn and Pokkali

Workers preparing fields for cultivation of Pokkali, a saline-tolerant rice variety, at Varapuzha near Kochi. In summer, the same fields are used to cultivate prawn. Thulasi Kakkat

Shot on OnePlus
#FramesofIndia

FROM THE ARCHIVES The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 13, 1975

Mrs. Gandhi's election set aside

Allahabad, June 12: In a momentous judgment likely to be a landmark in India's history, Mr. Justice Jag Mohan Lal Sinha of the Allahabad High Court to-day set aside the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi's election to the Lok Sabha. Holding her guilty of corrupt practice, the judge debarred Mrs. Gandhi from contesting any election under the Representation of the People Act for a period of six years but, on the plea of her counsel, stayed the operation of his judgment for 20 days. In a 258 page judgment on the petition filed by Mr. Raj Narain, a rival candidate, challenging Mrs. Gandhi's election from the Rae Bareli constituency in Uttar Pradesh in March 1971 the judge found her guilty of obtaining the assistance of gazetted Government officers including Mr. Yashpal Kapoor. The Prime Minister's plea that she decided to contest the election and filed the papers accordingly on February 1, 1971, was not accepted by the judge. He said that she had held herself out as a candidate on December 29, 1970 (the day she addressed a press conference in New Delhi). Mr. Justice J.M.L. Sinha said that Mrs. Gandhi obtained and procured the assistance of Mr. Yashpal Kapoor during the period January 7 to January 24, 1971 in the furtherance of her election prospects when Mr. Kapoor was a gazetted officer of the Government of India and was working as an Officer on Special Duty in the Prime Minister's Secretariat.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 13, 1925

Situation in China

An anti-Communist circular

Shanghai, June 12: The fact that discord exists among the strikers is shown by the distribution in the French concession of a quantity of Chinese circulars accusing the Communists of taking advantage of the disturbances to carry out their plots and asserting that the local Communists have received large funds from Russia. The circular says: "We weep for the deaths of our brethren while the Communists laugh in the dark. We are fighting for our national rights and freedom, while they are selling our freedom to Russia. Citizens! It is not foreigners who are killing us but Communists."

From Page One

Air India flight with 242 on board crashes

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who met the sole survivor of the crash in hospital, said none of the other people on board could be saved. "Due to the huge amount of fuel at 1.25 lakh litres and high temperature from the explosion, no one could be rescued," he said. The Press Trust of India identified the survivor as Viswashkumar Ramesh, a U.K. citizen travelling in the A11 seat of the Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft, heading to London with his brother.

Mr. Shah said that the process of retrieving bodies was almost complete, and that the official death toll would be released after DNA samples are matched and all bodies are identified.

The search was also on for the aircraft's black box for clues to understand what happened in the last crucial moments of flight.

As many as 265 bodies were brought to civil hospital in Ahmedabad, Deputy Commissioner of Police Kanan Desai told presspersons, suggesting that 24 people on the ground were killed in the crash.

Air India and Tata Sons Chairman N. Chandrasekaran said the Tata Group would provide ₹1 crore to the families of each person who lost their life in the tragedy. Air India is also organising two relief flights, one each from Delhi and Mumbai, to Ahmedabad for the next of kin of passengers and Air India staff.

Air India CEO Campbell Wilson said the airline was actively working with relevant authorities on the emergency response and a special team of caregivers was being despatched to Ahmedabad to provide additional support.

Shortly after the crash, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Union Minister of Civil Aviation K. Rammohan Naidu, who reached the accident site in the evening. Investigating teams from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and the Aircraft Accidents Investigation Bureau also arrived in Ahmedabad later in the day.

Mr. Naidu also said that the government is constituting a high-level committee comprising experts from various disciplines to examine the matter. The committee will work to strengthen aviation safety and prevent such incidents in future, he said in a social media post.

Reacting to the accident, Boeing President and CEO Kelly Ortberg said: "Our deepest condolences go out to the loved ones of the passengers and crew on board Air India Flight 171, as well as everyone affected in Ahmedabad. "

Boeing will defer to India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) to provide information about Air India flight AI-171, in adherence with the United Nations International Civil Aviation Organization protocol known as Annex 13, a statement added.

The United States apex probe agency, the National Transportation Safety Body (NTSB), said it would lead a team of U.S. investigators travelling to India to assist the AAIB. The U.S. aviation regulator Federal Aviation Administration said it was "ready to launch a team immediately in coordination with the NTSB." The AAIB investigation will be in line with protocols set by the International Civil Aviation Organization.

(With PTI inputs)

Central schemes must pass 'effectiveness' test to continue

Every scheme funded partially or fully by Centre should have 'sunset date', says Finance Ministry; it proposes more financial limitations, including for demand-driven schemes such as MGNREGS

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Schemes that are fully or partially funded by the Union government will be continued beyond the current financial year only if the "evaluation report for the scheme shows positive outcomes", proving that it has been "effective" in achieving its set objectives, and if there is a clear need to "continue the scheme in view of its mandate performance or scaling up of targets", according to a Finance Ministry circular issued on June 6.

To "improve the quality of government expenditure, every scheme should have a sunset date", the circular said.

The government is currently in the process of conducting a third party evaluation of all fully funded Central Schemes, while NITI Ayog is appraising the Centrally sponsored schemes. There are 54 Central schemes and 260 Centrally sponsored schemes for which approvals end on March 31, 2026 and are likely to be submitted for reappraisal. A majority of these will require fresh approval from the Union Cabinet.

There are 54 Central schemes and 260 Centrally sponsored schemes for which approvals end this financial year. C. VENTACHALAPATHY

These schemes cover a wide gamut, from social sectors such as health, women and child development, school and higher education, and tribal welfare to sectors such as agriculture, urban and rural infrastructure, water and sanitation, environment, and scientific research.

Apart from a "sunset date", the government has proposed other financial limitations. The total projected outlay of a continuing scheme for five years over the 16th Finance Commission (FC) cycle should not ordinarily be more than 5.5 times the average of annual expenditure made between the financial years of 2021-22 and 2024-25, the Finance Ministry circular said.

Instead, another scheme requiring less expenditure could be proposed. "The Ministry and department will have the flexibility to seek more funds for a scheme with commensurate reduction in another scheme based on specific justification. All schemes will operate as fund-limited schemes, which means that the total sanctions over the FC cycle must not exceed the approved outlay," the circular added.

MGNREGS impact

Such limitations also extend to demand-driven schemes, such as the flagship Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, or MGNREGS. "The outlay shall be determined based on the approximate number of beneficiaries to be covered in a Finance Commission cycle and sanctions shall be restricted to the approved outlay with a flexibility to carry forward any committed expenditure within the approved outlay to the next cycle."

For any upward revision, due to increase in the number of beneficiaries beyond the projected figures, Ministries have been told to seek specific approval from the Department of Expenditure.

Modi-Carney meet at G-7 to focus on bilateral reset: MEA

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Mark Carney

The upcoming meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Canadian counterpart Mark Carney will provide an "important opportunity" to discuss matters of bilateral interest, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said on Thursday.

Addressing the weekly media briefing, Mr. Jaiswal noted that mutual security concerns are being addressed through "existing mechanisms" between both countries. "We believe that the forthcoming meeting between the two leaders on the sidelines of the G-7 Summit will offer an important opportunity to exchange views on bilateral and global issues, and to explore pathways to reset the relationship based on mutual respect, shared interests, and sensitivity to each other's concerns," Mr. Jaiswal said.

Prime Minister Modi is scheduled to attend the G-7 summit hosted by Canada between June 15 and 17. The summit marks the first multilateral engagement for Mr. Modi following the conclusion of Operation Sindoor.

Earlier, Prime Minister Mark Carney had acknowledged India's global standing and said that India's stature made its participation in the G-7 dialogue imperative.

Bilateral ties between India and Canada had witnessed a sharp downturn following accusations by former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who had alleged the involvement of Indian State actors in the killing of pro-Khalistan activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. In response, India raised the issue of Khalistan separatists and organised criminal elements operating from Canadian territory.

Bengal clashes: tension lingers in the lanes of Rabindra Nagar, locals reel in aftermath

Shrabana Chatterjee
MAHESHTALA

Tensions simmered in the bylanes of Rabindra Nagar in Maheshtala (South 24 Parganas) on Thursday as residents grappled with the aftermath of violence that erupted a day earlier. Most shops remained shuttered; some bore signs of vandalism, with shattered glass and broken stones strewn across the neighbourhood.

A vandalised shop in the violence-hit area of Rabindra Nagar in the Maheshtala area of South 24 Parganas district. SHRABANA CHATTERJEE

Though municipal workers cleared debris through the early hours of Thursday, the air was still heavy with the acrid smell of soot and burnt fuel from torched vehicles. The police removed the charred remains of a motorbike set ablaze on Wednesday, while people collected the stones thrown during the clashes. Several vehicles were damaged, and a number of residents sustained injuries.

"We are sitting and counting losses. Our shop was vandalised. Police have also asked us not to open today. How will we survive?" said a local shopowner in Rabindra Nagar, tearfully surveying the damage. The West Bengal Police arrested 40 individuals in the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday in connection with the violence, which left several police personnel injured. Seven FIRs have been registered so far, officials confirmed.

The violence broke out in Ward No. 7, Maheshtala, on Wednesday morning, reportedly over the setting up of a shop. The situation took a communal turn following allegations of an attack on a place of worship. Tensions escalated rapidly as two groups clashed, throwing stones and attacking police personnel. The police resorted to tear gas shelling and baton charge to disperse the crowd.

The incident occurred just metres from the Rabindra Nagar police station. However, police officials said the deployment at the time was insufficient to contain what they described as a "frantic" mob.

A senior IPS officer present at the site told *The Hindu* that the "situation was under control". Authorities imposed Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) in the area, restricting movement and assembly.

On Thursday, a heavy police presence, including units of the Rapid Action Force, was maintained in a five-kilometre radius around Rabindra Nagar.

"We closed down our shutters and ran inside to save our lives. They vandalised the outside portion of our shop," said Gopal Basu, a food stall owner near the police station who sustained injuries during the clashes, as he picked up the remnants of his damaged shed. Leader of Opposition and BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari was denied permission to visit the area. BJP state president Sukanta Majumdar was stopped a few kilometres away as he attempted to enter the locality.

40 held over violence; BJP meets Bengal Governor

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

Forty persons have been arrested from Maheshtala in West Bengal in connection with the violence that left several police personnel injured. Clashes broke out between a few locals at Maheshtala on Wednesday afternoon over the setting up of a shop that took a communal turn.

"Prohibitory orders have been imposed in the area and the situation is under control," Jawed Shamim, Additional Director General (Law and Order) West Bengal Police, told *The Hindu*.

BJP MLAs led by Leader of Opposition Suvendu Adhikari met Governor C.V. Ananda Bhavan over the violence.

India marks a relative drop in gender parity

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report 2025 has ranked India at 131 out of 148 countries, with a parity score of just 64.1%. The report released on Thursday puts India among the lowest-ranked countries in South Asia. India had ranked 129 out of 146 countries last year.

The report said that while the global gender gap has closed to 68.8%, marking the strongest annual advancement since the COVID-19 pandemic, full parity remains 123 years away at current rates.

Iceland leads the rankings for the 16th year running, followed by Finland, Norway, the U.K. and New Zealand.

Bangladesh emerged as the best performer in South Asia, jumping 75 positions to rank 24 globally with notable gains in "political empowerment and economic participation". The 19th edition of the report, which covers 148 economies, revealed both encouraging momentum and persistent structural barriers facing women worldwide.

The Global Gender Gap Index measures gender parity across four key dimensions: economic participation and opportunity; educational attainment; health and survival; and political empowerment.

The Indian economy's overall performance improved in absolute terms by 0.3 points.

India's performance in labour force participation rate remained the same (45.9%) as last year.

In educational attainment, the report said, India scored 97.1%, reflecting positive shifts in female shares for literacy and tertiary education enrolment, which resulted in positive score improvements for the subindex as a whole.

"India also records higher parity in health and survival, driven by improved scores in sex ratio at birth and in healthy life expectancy," it said. However, India recorded a drop in parity in political empowerment for the second year in a row with female representation in parliament falling from 14.7% to 13.8%, the report said.

Similarly, the share of women in Ministerial roles fell from 6.5% to 5.6%, moving the indicator score (5.9%) further away this year from its highest level (30% in 2019), the report said. Nepal ranked 125, Sri Lanka 130, Bhutan 119, Maldives 138 and Pakistan ranked at the bottom among all countries at 148.

SJM launches national drive to shun use of foreign goods

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Giving credit to Operation Sindoor for "exposing" China and Türkiye as a threat to India's sovereignty and trade, Swadeshi Jagran Manch, the economic wing of Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS), on Thursday said India must see this as a wake-up call to totally shun foreign goods and become self-reliant.

While launching a pan-India drive to create awareness about use of '*swadeshi*' goods in Delhi on Thursday, the SJM said that it will "awaken people" about domination of e-commerce websites in the Indian market causing heavy losses to local traders.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, SJM's national co-convener Ashwani Mahajan said the drive for mass awareness named 'Swadeshi Suraksha evam Swavlamban Abhiyan' was launched with industrialists, traders, and farmers from across the country attending it.

Retail inflation eases to six-year low of 2.8% in May

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

India's retail inflation eased to a 75-month low of 2.8% in May 2025, driven downwards by falling food inflation, according to data released on Thursday. Inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index was last lower than this in February 2019.

Overall, retail inflation has averaged 2.99% in 2025-26 – based on the two months of data available – the lowest average for the first two months of a financial year since 2017-18.

Inflation in the food and beverages category eased to 1.5% in May 2025, down from 2.1% in April.

This marks the seventh consecutive month of slowing food inflation.

"Deflation in key components such as vegetables, pulses, spices, and meat contributed to this decline," said Rajani Sinha, Chief Economist at CareEdge Ratings.

"However, double-digit inflation in edible oils and fruits partially offset the broader moderation."

Likely pause in rate cuts

Economists say the substantial easing of inflation and the RBI's recent interest rate cuts mean the central bank will likely pause further rate cuts in the short term.

"While the overall inflation trajectory is expected to remain benign, the recent frontloaded policy actions and the guidance of limited room for incremental easing suggests a prolonged pause for now, with further actions being highly data dependent," said Upasna Bhardwaj, Chief Economist at Kotak Mahindra Bank.

Vegetable prices contracted 13.7% in May 2025, pulses prices contracted 8.2%, inflation in spices contracted 2.8%, and meat prices contracted 0.4%.

Ms. Sinha added that the persistent rise in edible oil prices remains a concern, driven by a contraction in oilseed sowing, rising global prices, and India's dependence on imports in this segment.

"The government's recent move to reduce the basic customs duty on imported crude edible oils from 20% to 10% is expected to offer some relief going forward," Ms. Sinha added.

'Accused wife confesses to murder of husband'

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

The Meghalaya Police said on Thursday that Sonam Raghuvanshi confessed to having played a part in the conspiracy to kill her husband Raja Raghuvansi, an Indore businessman.

Another prime accused, Raj Kushwaha, also confessed to his involvement in the conspiracy, Deputy Inspector General of Eastern Range Davis N.R. Marak told journalists in Meghalaya's capital, Shillong.

Raja and Sonam went missing from the Sohra (Cherrapunji) area on May 23. Raja's decomposed body was recovered from a deep gorge near a waterfall on June 2, while the latter surrendered before the police in Uttar Pradesh's Ghazipur on June 9.

"Sonam and Raj confessed to being a part of the conspiracy. We are trying to find out who the mastermind is, as they are blaming each other," Mr. Marak said while giving updates on the ongoing interrogation of the two prime accused and three contract killers – Akash Rajput, Vishal Singh Chauhan, and Anand Kurmi – by the Special Investigation Team (SIT).

APPEAL

Master Vishwas Rudraswamy Hiremath, MRN No. 10020001642285, 7 years son of Mr. Rudraswamy Hiremath admitted Mazumdar Shaw Medical Center is diagnosed with X-Linked Agammaglobulinemia. The only curative treatment is Bone Marrow Transplant. We are planning a Haploidentical Bone Marrow Transplant using one of the parents as the stem cell donor and TCR ALPHA/BETA and CD45RA Depletion Therapy. The approximate cost for the treatment is **Rs. 42,30,000/-**.
Kindly send donation however small by Cheque/D.D/M.O Favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Vishwas Rudraswamy Hiremath, **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.
SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848**, Mobile: **9884607377,** Email: **savepoorlives@gmail.com**. Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

Tragic turn: Dabu Patni cries as her brother Akash Patni was on the Air India plane that crashed in Ahmedabad on Thursday. REUTERS

One who lived: Home Minister Amit Shah meets Viswashkumar Ramesh, the lone survivor of the crash, in a hospital.

In safe custody: Rescue personnel collect personal belongings of the victims of the crash. VIJAY SONEJI

Enormity of crash: The mangled remains of the Air India Boeing 787 Dreamliner near a building. VIJAY SONEJI

Disasters in the past

Some of the big aviation disasters in India

● NUMBER OF DEATHS

Place: Arabian Sea

Jan. 1, 1978:
Air India Flight 855

213 The plane crashed 101 sec. into flight

Oct. 19, 1988:
Indian Airlines Flight 113

Place: Ahmedabad — 133

Feb. 14, 1990:
Indian Airlines Flight 605

Place: Bengaluru's HAL Airport — 92

Place: Charkhi Dadri

Nov. 12, 1996
Collision of Saudia Flight 763-Kazakhstan Airlines Flight 1907

349 Most devastating accident so far

July 17, 2000:
Alliance Air Flight 7412

Place: Patna — 60

Place: Mangaluru International Airport

May 22, 2010:
Air India Express Flight 812

158 The plane overshot runway, caught fire

Text: Lalatendu Mishra

Giant plane tears through hostel; some students missing, 60 hurt

MBBS students were having lunch in the boys' hostel of a medical college in Ahmedabad when the plane rammed through; college is now a site for collecting DNA samples of relatives of dead passengers; injured are being treated in Civil Hospital

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

Over 100 MBBS students of B.J. Medical College at Meghani Nagar in Ahmedabad were having lunch in the boys' hostel mess on Thursday afternoon when an Air India flight to London crashed into the building shortly after take-off.

At least five MBBS students, one PG resident doctor and the wife of a superspecialist doctor of the medical college were killed and over 60 medical students injured, the Federation of All India Medical Association (FAIMA) said.

The State government is yet to confirm the extent of the casualties on the ground.

The college is now a site for collecting DNA samples from the families of passengers on the doomed flight, so that they can be matched with victims, if needed. The injured are being treated at the Ahmedabad Civil Hospital, authorities said.

As of 5 p.m., 50 MBBS students have been admitted to the hospital, according to Dhawal Gameti, president of the resident doctors' association and vice-president of the Federation of All India Medical Associations. Three of them are in intensive care and high dependency units, but most of the others are in a stable condition, he said.

He said five students were missing. "A few of the super-specialist resident doctors and one relative of a doctor are missing right now. Most of the passengers of the flight were brought dead," he said.

"One or two bodies were unrecognisable," Shyam Govil, an MBBS student involved in the rescue.

The Civil Hospital's students hostel, staff quarters, and residential areas are located in the area where the plane crashed, Dhanjay Dwivedi, Additional Chief Secretary, Gujarat Health and Family Welfare Department, told the news agency ANI. "The residents of that area were also injured. About 50 injured people have been brought to Civil Hospital, Ahmedabad. They are being provided the best treatment. They are serious but stable," he said.

"DNA testing arrangements have been made at B.J. Medical, so families of the flight passengers, especially their parents and children, are requested to submit their samples at the location so that victims are identified at the earliest. If relatives of the passengers and other injured who have been brought to the Civil Hospital have to make any enquiry, Civil Hospital Ahmedabad has issued two helpline numbers: 6357 373831 and 6357 373841. You can contact these numbers for any help," he said.

Collateral damage: Part of the tail of an ill-fated plane wedged to a wall of a college hostel in Ahmedabad on Thursday. VIJAY SONEJI

Lunch hour

Shubham Gupta, an MBBS student at B.J. Medical College who was involved in the emergency rescue operations, said that at the time of the crash, a little over 100 students from the college, mostly young men aged 18 to 22 years, were eating their lunch in the mess rooms on both the ground and first floor of the building. Pictures taken after the crash show plates with food left uneaten and glasses lying on tables in the mess. A wall of the mess was also damaged due to the crash.

Mr. Govil said that a number of students had sustained haematoma, which is the result of trauma or injury that causes ruptured blood vessels.

Vijay Rupani was en route to London to join his wife and other members of his family. FILE PHOTO

Ex-Gujarat CM was among passengers on the fateful flight

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, 69, was among those killed in the crash of an Air India flight from Ahmedabad to London on Thursday, confirmed Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil, who described the loss as one "deeply felt by the BJP family". Mr. Rupani was *en route* to London to join his wife and other members of his family.

Born in Yangon in Myanmar in 1956, he moved with his family to Rajkot in Gujarat as a child and studied law at the University of Saurashtra. He held the post of Chief Minister of Gujarat between 2016 and 2021 in two terms.

Beginning his political life with the RSS and the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), he had been imprisoned during the anti-Emergency movement in 1976. Associated with the BJP since its inception, he served as a BJP corporator in Rajkot, and as a general secretary of the Gujarat BJP in the 1990s. He was elected to the Rajya Sabha in 2006.

In 2014, when then Rajkot (West) MLA Vajubhai Vala vacated his seat after being appointed the Governor of Karnataka, Mr. Rupani was offered that seat. He won the bypoll by a large margin and was made a Minister.

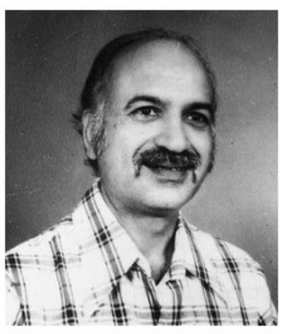
He served as the BJP chief for a few months in 2016, but with the resignation of then Chief Minister Anandiben Patel in the wake of the Patidar movement in the State, Rupani was chosen to replace her.

Just before the 2022 election, Mr. Rupani declared his retirement from electoral politics, bringing an end to one phase of his political life as the BJP effected a generational shift in the party. He was appointed a national vice-president of the party and held the charge of Punjab and Chandigarh for the BJP as part of that assignment.

AI 171 crash resembles crash of Emperor Ashoka 47 years ago

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

The crash of an Air India Boeing Dreamliner in Ahmedabad on Thursday almost mirrors the January 1, 1978 crash of an Air India Boeing 747-237B named Emperor Ashoka that had crashed into the Arabian Sea soon after take-off from the Mumbai airport 47 years ago.



Capt. M.L. Kukar of the ill-fated Air India Flight 855.

Like flight AI 171, which crashed within minutes after take-off into a residential area near the Ahmedabad airport, flight AI 855 plunged into the sea near the airport, off the coast of Bandra, within 3 km of flying distance at night due to disorientation of the captain soon after instrument failure, killing all the 190 passengers and 23 crew members on board. The flight was headed to Dubai.

"That was one of Air India's biggest air disasters and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation [DGCA] took strict action after investigations and safety levels were enhanced substantially," said Jitender Bhargava, former Executive Director, Air India, and aviation expert.

According to the investigation report, the aircraft, after one minute of take-off, took a right turn after crossing the coastline and soon after turned to left and never gained level. It lost altitude and then nosedived into the sea.

Terror attack

On June 23, 1985, Air India flight AI 182, a Boeing 747-237B, named Emperor Kanishka, blew up midair due to a terrorist attack on the coast of Cork, Ireland over the Atlantic Ocean, killing 307 passengers and 22 crewmembers. The flight was coming from Montreal to Mumbai. On August 7, 2020, Air India Express flight 1344 skidded off the runway at the Kozhikode International Airport, plunged into a valley and split into two, killing 21 people.

Leaders across the political spectrum express grief

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The country's leadership stood united in grief and expressed condolences for those who lost their lives when a London-bound Air India plane carrying 242 passengers and crew crashed in a residential area in Ahmedabad minutes after taking off.

President Droupadi Murmu in a post on X said that she was deeply distressed to learn about the "heart-rending disaster".

"My thoughts and prayers are with the affected people. The nation stands with them in this hour of indescribable grief," she said. Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar also expressed his "thoughts and prayers" for all those affected.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the tragedy had "stunned and saddened" everyone. "It is heartbreaking beyond words. In this sad hour, my thoughts are with everyone affected by it. Have been in touch with Ministers and authorities who are working to assist those affected."

Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai expressed "deepest condolences" to the families of passengers and the inmates of the B.J. Medical College and Civil Hospital affected by the crash.

> My thoughts and prayers are with the affected people. The nation stands with them in this hour of indescribable grief
> **DROUPADI MURMU**
> President of India

'Overtaken by grief'

Chairperson of Congress Parliamentary Party Sonia Gandhi said, "The entire country is overtaken by grief and is praying."

BJP president J.P. Nadda and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge have directed their respective party workers to extend all possible help to those dealing with the tragedy.

Mr. Kharge, in a post on X, said, "It is heartbreaking beyond words. In this sad hour, my thoughts are with everyone affected by it."

Later, speaking to reporters, he said that the accident should be investigated. "Was it the pilot's fault or the one who was tasked with providing information? All these things need to come out."

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, in a post on X, said, "The pain and anxiety the families of the passengers and crew must be feeling is unimaginable. My thoughts are with each one of them in this incredibly difficult moment."

Special trains to Mumbai and Delhi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In light of the tragic Air India 171 plane crash, Western Railway is running two special trains from Ahmedabad to Delhi and Ahmedabad to Mumbai, a spokesperson from the Ministry of Railways said on Thursday.

Bookings for train nos. 09497, 09494 and 09493 are open on Tatkal basis. The train calendars can be checked on *www.enquiry-.indianrail. gov.in.*

'We could not determine if the victims were children or adults'

Rescue and relief work under way after the Air India plane crashed moments after taking off from the Ahmedabad airport. PTI

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

DNA and blood samples are being preserved for identification, says Police Commissioner

The bodies retrieved from the B.J. Medical College premises where the London-bound Air India plane crashed on Thursday were charred, making it difficult to determine if they were children or adults, paramilitary officials involved in the rescue operation told *The Hindu*.

Police Commissioner G.S. Malik told *The Hindu* that 204 bodies were recovered from the crash site, and 41 injured persons were rushed to the hospital. He said the DNA and blood samples of the deceased were being preserved for identification.

"The chances of survivors may be there, we cannot say anything at this point," Mr. Malik said.

He said the total number of people present at the medical college at the time of the incident is not known yet.

"We must have pulled out around 200 bodies. They were charred beyond recognition, some bodies were dismembered. Due to the impact of the fire, the bodies had shrunk. We wrapped them in yards of white cloth brought in by the local administration, and put them in ambulances," an officer from one of the CAPFs said.

Hundreds of CAPF personnel drawn from the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Border Security Force (BSF), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Army were pressed into rescue and relief work at the crash site.

The CAPFs posted in Gujarat, including the medical units, were mobilised to help the civil administration in rescue work and crowd management.

"It was a horrific site. We could find no survivors. All we were doing was pulling out bodies from the rubble. We found carcasses of several cats and dogs too," said the CAPF official.

INBRIEF

2 cabin crew members from Manipur aboard Gujarat flight

Two of the 10 cabin crew members aboard the Air India flight that crashed in Gujarat on Thursday were from conflict-affected Manipur. The fate of both women – Kongbrailatpam Nganthoi Sharma, 22 (left), and Lamnunthem Singson, 28 – remained unknown as relatives and neighbours gathered at their residences, awaiting official confirmation about their condition. Ms. Sharma is from Thoubal district in the Imphal Valley. Ms. Singson's family has been residing in the Kuki-majority Kangpokpi district after their displacement from Imphal owing to ethnic violence erupted in May 2023.

India condemns vandalism of Tagore's home in Bangladesh

India on Thursday "strongly" condemned the vandalisation of the ancestral home of Rabindranath Tagore in Bangladesh's Sirajganj district. Addressing the weekly press briefing, Randhir Jaiswal, Official Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, said the attack was part of a "broad pattern" of assaults on the pluralist culture of Bangladesh. "We strongly condemn the despicable attack and vandalisation of the ancestral home of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore by a mob on June 8, 2025... The violent act is a disgrace to the memory and the inclusive philosophy and teachings that the Nobel Laureate espoused in Bangladesh," he said.

Sri Lankan Commander visits South Western Command

Lieutenant-General BKGM Lasantha Rodrigo, Commander of the Sri Lankan Army, on Thursday visited the South Western Command headquarters in Jaipur on the second day of his official tour of India from June 11 to 14. "Lt Gen Rodrigo was warmly welcomed by Lt Gen Manjinder Singh, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, South Western Command. They engaged in detailed discussions on issues of mutual interest, focusing on areas such as regional security, joint training initiatives, capability development, and the exchange of best practices," the Defence Ministry said in a statement.

Speeding SUV with BJP flag kills constable in Patna; 3 held

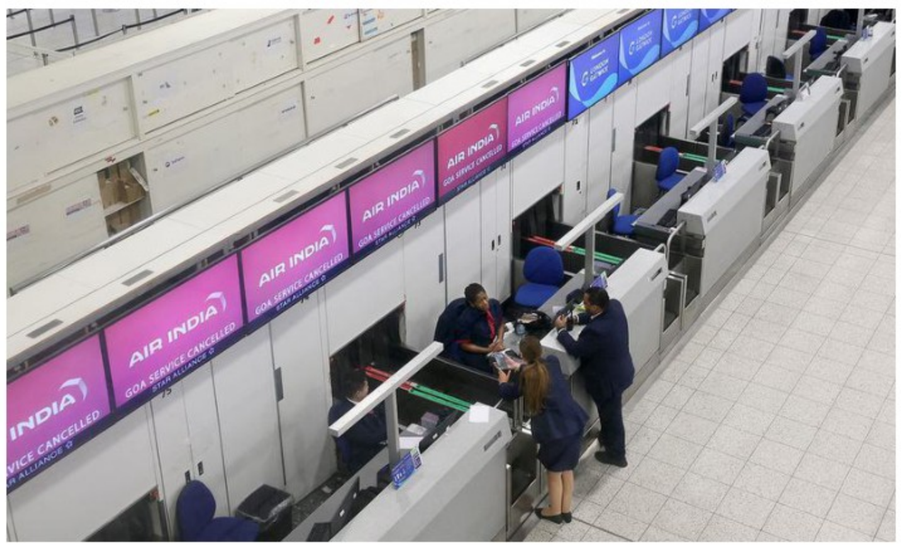
A woman police constable was killed and two other officers sustained serious injuries after a speeding SUV mowed them down during a vehicle checking drive in Patna in the early hours of Thursday. The vehicle involved in the incident bore a BJP flag. The incident took place at half past midnight on Atal Path. Three police officials were inspecting vehicle documents when the SUV rammed them, killing constable Komal Kumari on the spot. A sub-inspector and an assistant sub-inspector were critically injured in the incident. Of the four persons in the car, three (including the car's owner) were arrested, the police said.

U.K. PM Starmer, King Charles express shock over crash

High Commission of India in London sets up hot-line for emergency visas for those seeking to travel to India; lone survivor of plane crash confirmed to be British national Viswashkumar Ramesh

The Hindu Bureau
LONDON

A cloudy day in London turned darker as news emerged that London-bound Air India flight 171 had crashed moments after it took off from Ahmedabad. The flight, bound for London's Gatwick airport, was carrying 169 Indians, 53 British citizens, seven Portuguese nationals and a Canadian. One passenger was confirmed as having survived the flight by the authorities in Ahmedabad. The passenger was later confirmed to be a British national, Viswashkumar Ramesh.



Employees stand at the closed Air India check-in area at Gatwick Airport in the U.K. on Thursday. REUTERS

"The scenes emerging of a London-bound plane carrying many British nationals crashing in the Indian city of Ahmedabad are devastating," U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer said, as he offered support to those impacted.

U.K. Foreign Secretary David Lammy made a statement in the House of Commons expressing his shock and saying the U.K. Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) was working with local authorities and had crisis teams involved in London and New Delhi.

Britain's monarch King Charles III called the incident "appallingly tragic".

"My wife and I have been desperately shocked by the terrible events in Ahmedabad this morning," he said in a statement, in which he commended the efforts of first responders.

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan said the news was "deeply distressing" and said he was in close touch with the Indian High Commission.

The High Commission of India in London has set up a hot-line for emergency visas for those wishing to travel to India.

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney said he was "devastated" and that transport officials in Canada were working with their Indian counterparts.

"We share your shock and grief on this tragic day," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said.

Others who expressed their condolences and solidarity with India included French President Emmanuel Macron, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and German Chancellor Friedrich Merz.

Leaders from Russia, U.S., Australia, Israel offer condolences

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

U.S. President Donald Trump, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Bangladesh interim government's Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar, and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese were among the world leaders who condoled Thursday's air tragedy in Ahmedabad that left at least 242 people dead and dozens injured.

Mr. Trump described the incident as "one of the worst in aviation history", and said, "That was a terrible crash. I have already told them, anything we can do, we will be there immediately."

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the country is monitoring the situation and promised support.

"The news of a passenger plane crash in Ahmedabad is absolutely devastating. In this time of tragedy, Australia's thoughts are with everyone affected. Our government is receiving regular updates, and we will continue to monitor the situation closely," Mr. Albanese said.

Putin writes to Modi

Mr. Putin wrote to President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi with his condolence message saying, "Kindly convey the words of sincere sympathy and support to the families and near ones of the victims, as well as wishes for a speedy recovery to all those injured in this catastrophe."

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, in a social media post, said, "Saddened by the tragic crash. We extend our condolences to the families of the victims grieving this immense loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by this heartbreaking tragedy."

Mr. Yunus expressed shock at the crash of the Air India flight. "At this trying hour, our thoughts and prayers remain with the victims and their loved ones. We stand in solidarity with the people and Government of India, and offer our full support in any form," he said in his letter of condolence to Mr. Modi.

Ex-Minister defends India's 'robust' safety monitoring system

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Praful Patel

Former Civil Aviation Minister Praful Patel, during whose tenure the decision to induct the Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft into the then state-owned Air India was taken, said these aircraft were the "workhorses" of long-haul flights and only a detailed inquiry could shed light on the cause of the Ahmedabad plane crash.

Mr. Patel said India had a "robust" safety monitoring mechanism and there was no reason for any alarm.

"Look, 787 Dreamliners are really fine aircraft and there are thousands of them flying all over the world. These are really the workhorses of long-haul flights," Mr. Patel told *The Hindu*.

He pointed out that the aircraft involved in the Ahmedabad crash was about 11 years old and had done thousands of flights, including a Delhi-Ahmedabad flight before it took off on a fateful flight for London.

"The pilots were also experienced. So, what could have gone wrong is something only a detailed inquiry can tell us," he said.

The Ahmedabad crash has not only put the spotlight on flight safety but also on several Boeing models, including the Dreamliner.

"Let me tell you that we have good safety oversight system in the DGCA [Directorate General of Civil Aviation] and there shouldn't be any speculation," Mr. Patel said.

Overloading, 'bird hit' among likely causes of air crash, suggest experts

Jacob Koshy
Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

While the cause of the A1-171 flight crash in Ahmedabad were being investigated and information from the flight data and cockpit voice-recorder was awaited, aviation experts theorise – judging from videos of the plane's short flight – that overloading, a potential bird hit and the rare instance of both engines failing could have prevented the aircraft from getting sufficient 'lift' to ascend.

The Boeing 787 Dreamliner has a maximum take-off weight of 227.9 tonnes and a fuel capacity of 1,26,206 litres. Twin-engine flights are equipped, even under the worst scenario, to operate for up to 330 minutes on a single engine. "The odds of both engines failing simultaneously during take-off are quite small, or about one in a billion," Abhay Pashilkar, Director, CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), which designs civilian planes, told *The Hindu*.

While Boeing has been in the spotlight over safety issues, this is the first time its Dreamliner has crashed. AFP

A plausible scenario was the plane being overloaded, he said. This meant an incorrect estimate of the combined weight of the loaded airplane and the quantity of available fuel. This, along with the external temperature, determines the speed the plane must attain to keep rising, and a misjudgment on that can cause the plane to stall and drop.

"High temperatures on a hot day can thin out the air, meaning you get less lift from the same speed. Weight, temperature, altitude – all affect lift. Prior to take-off, the pilots have charts and are informed of the weights and the necessary speeds for specific altitudes," Mr. Pashilkar said. "If the pilot didn't hit the appropriate speeds, it would reflect in the flight recorder and we will know."

Growth of grass

Aviation expert Capt. Mohan Ranganathan told *The Hindu* that a "bird hit", or birds being sucked into both engines couldn't be ruled out. He explained that the growth of grass near the runway during the monsoon attracts a lot of insects, which in turn, attract birds.

"I suspect bird ingestion may have happened. And from the footage that we have seen, the landing gear did not retract. If that happened, the aircraft could have climbed higher and travelled further and possibly would have crossed the residential areas," he said.

The Ahmedabad air crash has once again brought the spotlight back on safety with regard to Boeing aircraft, including the Dreamliner. Though this is the first time a Dreamliner has crashed, the aircraft has faced safety issues earlier.

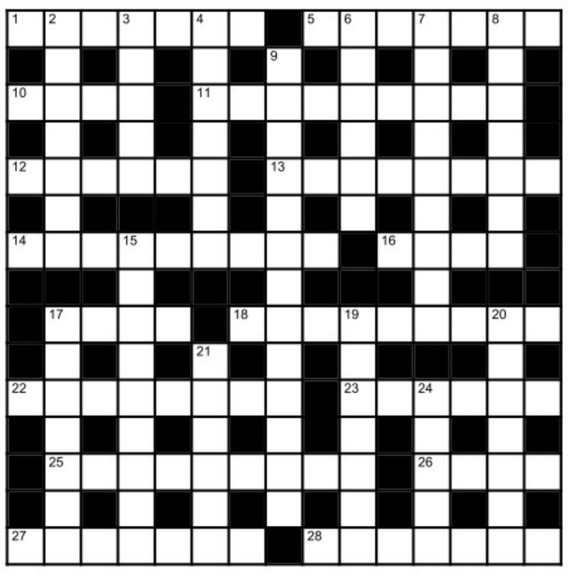
The initial lot faced battery heating and forced groundings of planes. The manufacturer also halted deliveries of their existing orders and reworked some design aspects after concerns were raised over the fuselage design.

TH CROSSWORD + 14510

(set by Vidwan)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Guard quietly learning by repetition at court (7)
5 Iron hand overcoming resistance of central government (7)
10 Work without slightest of hate in heart (4)
11 Form of true crust (9)
12 Grow old, plan and plan (6)
13 Time wasted in diplomacy, creeper takes it as process (8)
14 Thoroughly popular team abroad (6-3)
16 Ideal company within Indian borders (4)
17 See giant? Could be Egyptians! (4)
18 Anger was felt occasionally with a small bit of hared towards this standard feature in TV media broadcasts (9)
22 More depressing or good place to relieve men? That is right! (8)
23 Drug with love transforming into ecstasy as in this place (6)
25 Prepare brews, infusing boundless love to resolve differences for time being (5,4)
26 Soundly criticise King's work (4)
27 Cures almost all sick, nothing concerning faith (7)
28 Small round urban habitat housing European people (7)

Down

2 Something used to control mob in Brazilian city - the generic usual name basically! (4,3)
3 Hook-up with model? That is cool! (3-2)
4 Fall of scoundrel involved in argument (7)
6 Time for small tax stir (6)
7 Uncertain like one very old Catholic in uniform (9)
8 Old Iranian in a waistcoat darns regularly (7)
9 True, voters are exploited valuable mass (8,5)
15 One minute dance put up spontaneously (9)
17 Cover cut out for a comfort (7)
19 Lively piece of music at school with zero jiggles (7)
20 Pass pins (4,3)
21 Corbusier razed some mountain range (6)
24 Priest losing last buck (5)

SUDOKU

2		4		5				8
			1		7			
		7	2		8	6		
	9	1					4	
5								7
	2					3	1	
		5	3		4	9		
			5		9			
8				6		4		2

No.SS6549 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	6	5	7	8	2	4	9	1
9	7	1	3	4	5	8	2	6
8	4	2	1	9	6	5	7	3
2	8	3	9	5	7	6	1	4
6	9	4	8	3	1	7	5	2
5	1	7	6	2	4	3	8	9
4	2	6	5	7	9	1	3	8
1	5	8	2	6	3	9	4	7
7	3	9	4	1	8	2	6	5

FAITH

Ramanuja's compassion

Tiruvalluvar says, "The crown of wealth is one's compassion; all other wealth is found among even the meanest of men." One may say it is very difficult to show kindness to one's persecutor in the Kali Yuga, but when one decides to overlook faults in others who set out to injure one, then one is walking in God's way, as shown by our acharyas, said Damal S. Ramakrishnan.

Saint Ramanuja had a harrowing experience when his guru himself orchestrated an attempt to cause injury to Ramanuja, while they had crossed the forests of the Vindhyas. Sensing the mood in the camp, Ramanuja slipped away and made his escape through the forests, keen on returning to Kancheepuram. However, he did not know the direction to travel and lay down exhausted under a tree. A hunter and his spouse appeared forthwith and enquired about his travails. Out of respect and regard for his guru and impelled by his inherent compassion, he refrained from naming anyone; instead, he merely says he has to reach Kanchi and whether they can guide him. The hunter couple readily offers to take him to Kanchi as they were also headed there. Ramanuja says, "*Ramaya Ramabhadraya*" (You appear like Rama and Sita to me). The couple asks, in feigned innocence, "Who is this Rama and Sita that you speak of?"

Ramanuja, stunned by their 'ignorance' , immediately narrates the Ramayana in great detail, which ends as they reach Kanchi. Here, the couple disappears as soon as they enter the town and that is when Ramanuja realises that the hunter couple was none but Varadaraja Perumal and Perundevi Thayar, the deities of Kancheepuram temple.

INBRIEF

Škoda Auto eyes automatic vehicles to boost India growth

Škoda Auto India, celebrating 25 years in India, has now decided to focus on automatic cars as a major differentiating factor to power its next round of growth. While the industry automatic average is 25%, it is 53% for Škoda Auto and the company plans to take it to over 70%, Ashish Gupta, brand director, Škoda Auto India told *The Hindu*. "We are very strong in automatic and have a robust portfolio. We want to play on our strength in the market," he said.

Shriram Group, Sanlam foray into wealth management JV

Shriram Group announced its entry into wealth management business though its joint venture with South African financial services firm Sanlam. The latter will hold a 50% stake in the joint venture. "With Shriram Wealth, our vision is to be the most trusted partner, maximising client wealth and creating value over time," said Vikas Satija, MD & CEO of Shriram Wealth. The JV targets a ₹50,000 crore in Assets Under Advice (AUA) in next five years, as per a statement.

GSK, Bharat Biotech ally for Shigella vaccine development

Bharat Biotech International and global biopharma major GSK will collaborate to advance the development of latter's Shigella vaccine candidate altSonflex1-2-3. Under a pact, Bharat Biotech will lead further development of altSonflex1-2-3, including Phase 3 clinical trials, regulatory advancement and large-scale production. GSK will continue to support the programme by assisting in clinical trial design, external funding and commercialisation.

'AI plane crash may harden aviation insurance premia'

This 'significant incident' in the insurance industry is expected to influence aviation insurance rates going forward and influence renewal terms, premia, say insurance industry officials

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

The Air India A1-171 Boeing 787 Dreamliner crash at Ahmedabad on Thursday, which has been termed as a 'significant incident' in the insurance industry is expected to influence aviation insurance rates going forward, said insurance industry officials

"General Indian aviation insurance premium market is estimated at about ₹900 crore. While most large losses are reinsured, this event is expected to influence aviation insurance rates going forward," said Amit Agarwal, CEO & MD Howden, India.

Narendra Bharindwal, President, Insurance Brokers Association of India (IBAI) said the liability coverage, especially for flights operating in or to regions like Europe–typically exceeds $500 million.

Tragic end: Remains of the Air India plane that crashed moments after taking off lies on a building in Ahmedabad. PTI

"This incident, along with others in recent months, will likely result in a hardening of the aviation insurance market, not just for the airline involved, but across the entire aviation sector," he added.

Stating aviation insurance programmes for major airlines such as Air India are arranged on a fleet basis and reinsured across international markets like London and New York, he said no single insurer bears the entire risk.

Distributed coverage

"Coverage is widely distributed among global reinsurers, with shares as small as 1.5% to 2% and a lead reinsurer typically taking 10-15%," he said.

"The financial impact of such incidents is shared globally across this network. While immediate premium adjustments are unlikely, the cumulative effect of multiple aviation incidents worldwide – including this one – will influence renewal terms and premiums for the sector in the next underwriting cycle," he emphasized

Aviation policies are all-risk policies providing cover to airlines during incidents such as Thursday's Air India crash.

"This incident is likely to trigger multiple aspects of a typical aviation hull all-risk policy. Aircraft damage would be covered under the aviation hull all-risk section, which insures the current valuation of the aircraft," said Mr. Agarwal.

For a Dreamliner, depending on its configuration, age, and other factors, this value could range between $211 million and $280 million.

Sensex slips 1% as U.S. hints Israel-Iran attack

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Indian stocks dipped 1% on Thursday after United States withdrew diplomats from West Asian nations saying that Iran was "not safe" and may be attacked by Israel.

Benchmark Nifty 50 and Sensex fell 1% to 24,888.20 and 81,692 points respectively on Thursday.

All sectoral indices dipped with financial services indices falling almost 2%. With this slump, Indian markets broke a consecutive six day positive returns.

'Intense profit booking'

"The downturn was attributed to intensified profit-booking and risk-off sentiment, as escalating geopolitical tensions in Middle East overshadowed positive macro cues such as softening inflation and encouraging trade data," said analysts at Bajaj Broking.

The slump in equity markets also led to a nine-paise intra day depreciation of the rupee.

"The Indian rupee becomes the worst-performing Asian currency, battered by risk-averse sentiments and a surge in crude oil prices driven by geopolitical concerns.

"Weak domestic equities have further weighed on the local currency," said Dilip Parmar senior analyst at HDFC Securities.

Boeing shares decline 8% pre-market after Air India plane crash

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Shares of North American airplane maker Boeing fell 8% in pre-market trade on NASDAQ after an Air India aircraft crashed near Gujarat's Ahmedabad airport on Thursday.

The private carrier informed that the London-bound Boeing 787-7 aircraft had 242 passengers and crew members combined on board. At about 8.15 a.m. ET, the Virginia-headquartered manufacturer's scrips were trading 7.71% lower at $197.50.

In a statement, Boeing informed it was in touch with Air India, further affirming it was ready to extend support to the private carrier. "Our thoughts are with the passengers, crew, first responders and all affected," Boeing said.

The London-bound airplane crashed within minutes after it took off from Ahmedabad airport at 1.38 p.m. The exact reason for the crash is not yet clear.

Mayday call

A PTI report, quoting a senior official, said the aircraft gave a Mayday call to ATC after taking off from Ahmedabad.

Thereafter, the ATC received no response to calls.

"Immediately after departure from Runway 23, the aircraft fell on the ground outside the airport perimeter. Heavy black smoke was seen coming from the site of the accident," the official added.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	81,692	-1.00
US Dollar	85.52	0.01
Gold	99,340	0.86
Brent oil	69.80	2.35

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2543.70	-37.50
Adani Ports	1445.80	-10.60
Apollo Hosp	6996.50	69.00
Asian Paints	2219.40	10.60
Axis Bank	1212.90	-18.50
Bajaj Auto	8567.00	-152.00
Bajaj Finserv	2028.80	15.90
Bajaj Finance	9368.50	-56.50
Bharat Elec	387.40	-5.50
Bharti Airtel	1844.20	-16.00
Cipla	1502.80	-18.90
Coal India	392.70	-9.40
Dr Reddys Lab	1362.70	11.60
Eicher Motors	5315.50	-36.50
Eternal Ltd.	251.56	-5.51
Grasim Ind	2689.10	-33.10
HCL Tech	1701.20	-20.70
HDFC Bank	1943.40	-7.00
HDFC Life	754.50	-9.70
Hero MotoCorp	4362.80	-47.50
Hindalco	651.05	-4.15
Hind Unilever	2332.70	-43.70
ICICI Bank	1425.20	-5.80
IndusInd Bank	829.90	-6.40
Infosys	1608.60	-22.50
ITC	421.00	-5.15
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	296.00	-6.65
JSW Steel	995.65	-11.45
Kotak Bank	2126.80	-18.50
L&T	3603.90	-80.90
M&M	3019.20	-61.50
Maruti Suzuki	12390.00	-62.00
NestleIndia	2385.60	-33.60
NTPC	333.70	-4.40
ONGC	247.88	0.56
PowerGrid Corp	289.00	-6.45
Reliance Ind	1441.60	-7.30
SBI Life	1766.00	-33.30
State Bank	805.95	-9.10
Shriram Finance Ltd.	668.05	-18.00
Sun Pharma	1687.40	-3.20
TataConsumerProduct	1085.10	-19.20
Tata Motors	715.35	-21.05
Tata Steel	152.89	-3.52
TCS	3434.20	-37.70
Tech Mahindra	1644.40	6.90
Titan	3452.70	-88.90
Trent Ltd.	5627.50	-149.00
UltraTech Cement	11323.00	-141.00
Wipro	259.61	0.69

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 12

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.40	85.72
Euro	99.07	99.45
British Pound	116.01	116.45
Japanese Yen (100)	59.44	59.67
Chinese Yuan	11.90	11.94
Swiss Franc	105.09	105.49
Singapore Dollar	66.79	67.05
Canadian Dollar	62.66	62.90
Malaysian Ringitt	20.21	20.33
Australian Dollar	55.66	55.87

Source:Indian Bank

RBI eases KYC norms for customer convenience

T. Ashokamithran
MUMBAI

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) eased the Know Your Customer (KYC) norms for convenience of the customers, according to a circular released June 12.

Banks shall complete the KYC updation of customers who are flagged as 'low risk' whose KYC have not been updated, within a year or June 2026, whichever is later. Moreover, the Central bank also introduced the facility to upload KYC through video. The facility is called Video based Customer Identification Process (V-CIP) for customer onboarding and information updation.

The RBI also said banks shall enable its banking correspondents to undertake the KYC updation activity. These facilities shall be provided to reactivate inoperative accounts, RBI said in a separate circular.

Banks have been advised to reach out to semi-urban and rural areas and set up camps to complete the process.

Updation an issue

The circular becomes important at a time when a lot of PMJDY accounts were reportedly inoperative due to difficulties in KYC updation and eligible beneficiaries for Direct Benefit Transfer-based (DBT) schemes faced snags in withdrawing money.

"Simplifying KYC while maintaining regulatory safeguards will enable the ecosystem to onboard customers faster, reduce friction, and accelerate the adoption of formal financial services," said Payments Council of India (PCI) in its release.

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
VIJAYPUR, JAMMU-181134

Employment Notification No. 11 / 2025

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Vijaypur, Jammu invites online applications from Indian Citizens as per Govt. of India Residency scheme, for the tenure posts of Senior Residents/Demonstractors in the following Departments/Speciality for a maximum period upto 3 years.

Post Code	Department/Specially	EWS	UR	OBC	SC	ST	Total
1.	Anaesthesiology	-	1	3	-	-	4
2.	Anatomy	-	-	1	-	-	1
3.	Burns & Plastic Surgery	-	-	1	-	-	1
4.	Cardiology	-	1	-	-	-	1
5.	Cardiothoracic Surgery	-	1	1	-	-	2
6.	Community Medicine	-	2	1	-	-	3
7.	Dermatology	-	-	-	1	-	1
8	Endocrinology & Metabolism	-	-	2	-	-	2
9.	Forensic Medicine & Toxicology	-	-	1	-	-	1
10.	Gastroenterology	-	-	1	-	-	1
11.	General Medicine	-	2	-	1	2	5
12.	General Surgery	-	-	5	-	1	6
13.	Hospital Administration	-	3	-	2	-	5
14.	Medical Oncology	-	-	1	-	-	1
15.	Microbiology	1	-	1	1	-	3
16.	Neonatology	-	1	-	-	-	1
17.	Nephrology	-	1	1	-	-	2
18.	Neurology	-	-	-	1	-	1
19.	Neurosurgery	1	-	1	-	-	2
20.	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	1	-	2	-	-	3
21.	Ophthalmology	-	-	1	-	-	1
22.	Orthopaedics	-	-	1	-	-	1
23.	Paediatric Surgery	-	1	2	-	-	3
24.	Paediatrics	-	-	2	-	-	2
25.	Physiology	-	-	1	1	-	2
26.	psychiatry	-	1	1	-	-	2
27.	Radiology (Radio-Diagnosis)	-	-	1	1	-	2
28.	Radiotherapy	-	-	1	-	-	1
29.	Surgical Gastroenterology	-	-	-	1	-	1
30.	Transfusion Medicine & Blood Bank	-	-	1	-	-	1
31.	Trauma & Emergency Medicine	1	1	2	2	2	8
32.	Urology	-	1	-	-	-	1
	Total	**4**	**16**	**35**	**11**	**5**	**71**

Important Dates

Opening of Online Application Form	30.05.2025 (Friday)
Closing of Online Application form	10.07.2025 (Thursday)

Online Application form, Vacancy details, general terms & conditions and prescribed recuritment Rules etc. For the aforesaid posts are available at www.aiimsjammu.edu.in under "Recruitment> open Jobs'.

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Registrar
On & behalf of ED & CEO AIIMS, Vijaypur, Jammu

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STOCKHOLM

Israel's starvation of Gaza is a 'war crime': Sweden's Foreign Minister

REUTERS

Sweden's Foreign Minister Maria Malmer Stenergard on Thursday condemned Israel for blocking humanitarian aid and targeting aid points in Gaza, causing "starvation", which she called a "war crime". She urged swift delivery of food, water, and medicine, highlighting Israel's failure to meet humanitarian law commitments. AFP

CAIRO

Hamas says its police force killed twelve 'Israeli-backed' fighters

AFP

A unit of Gaza's Hamas-run police force said it killed 12 members of an Israeli-backed militia after detaining them early Thursday. The militia said its fighters had attacked Hamas and killed five militants but made no mention of its own casualties. Verification of the killings remains unclear amid conflicting claims. AP

WASHINGTON

Trump unveils website for $5 mn 'Gold Card' U.S. residency visa

AFP

U.S. President Donald Trump launched a website, *TrumpCard.gov*, for his $5 million "Gold Card" visa, offering wealthy foreigners permanent U.S. residency and a path to citizenship. The card aims to attract investors, promising green card privileges and economic benefits amid ongoing immigration debates. AFP

CAIRO

Sudan's RSF claims control of key border zone with Libya and Egypt

REUTERS

Sudanese paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) claimed control of a strategic border zone with Libya and Egypt amid ongoing civil war. The military had on Tuesday evacuated the area, accusing Libyan commander Khalifa Hifter's forces of supporting RSF attacks in a "blatant aggression against Sudan, its land, and its people". AP

IAEA board censures Iran for not complying with nuclear obligations

The Atomic Energy Organization of Iran and the Foreign Ministry state that Tehran has 'no choice but to respond to this political resolution'; U.S. embassy in Jerusalem restricts staff movements due to security concerns amid heightened tensions

Associated Press
Agence France-Presse
VIENNA/WASHINGTON

The UN nuclear watchdog's board of governors on Thursday formally found that Iran is not complying with its nuclear obligations for the first time in 20 years, a move that could lead to further tensions and set in motion an effort to restore UN sanctions on Tehran later this year.

Iran reacted immediately, saying it will establish a new enrichment facility "in a secure location" and that "other measures are also being planned".

Tense presence: Armoured vehicles deployed outside the U.S. embassy building in Baghdad's Green Zone on Thursday. AFP

"The Islamic Republic of Iran has no choice but to respond to this political resolution," the Iranian Foreign Ministry and the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran said in a joint statement. U.S. President Donald Trump previously warned that Israel or America could carry out air strikes targeting Iranian nuclear facilities if negotiations failed to reach an agreement – and some American personnel and their families have begun leaving the region over the tensions, which come ahead of a new round of Iran-U.S. talks Sunday in Oman.

Nineteen countries on the International Atomic Energy Agency's board, which represents the agency's member nations, voted for the resolution, according to diplomats who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe the outcome of the closed-doors vote. Russia, China and Burkina Faso opposed it, 11 abstained and two did not vote.

The resolution was put forward by France, the U.K., Germany and the U.S.

Dangerous region

Meanwhile, the U.S. embassy in Jerusalem announced it was restricting staff movements after President Donald Trump said U.S. personnel were being moved from the potentially "dangerous" West Asia.

"Due to the increased regional tensions, United States government employees and their family members are restricted from travel outside the greater Tel Aviv (area)... Jerusalem, and Be'er Sheva areas until further notice," the embassy said.

Israel should not strike Iran, as deal is 'close', says Trump

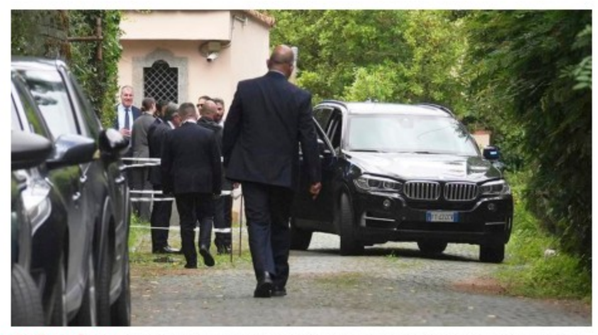
Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump called on Thursday on Israel not to attack Iran, saying a deal on its nuclear programme remained close, but Tehran defiantly vowed to increase its output of enriched uranium ahead of new talks.

Mr. Trump acknowledged that an Israeli strike on Iran "may very well happen," although he stopped short of calling a strike imminent, and said the risk of "massive conflict" led the United States to draw down staff in the region.

"We are fairly close to a pretty good agreement," Mr. Trump told reporters.

Asked about his discussions with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Mr. Trump said: "I don't want them going in, because I think it would blow it."



Talks afoot: Delegations arrive at the Omani embassy in Rome for a fifth round of nuclear talks between Iran and the U.S. in May. AP

Mr. Trump quickly added: "Might help it actually, but it also could blow it."

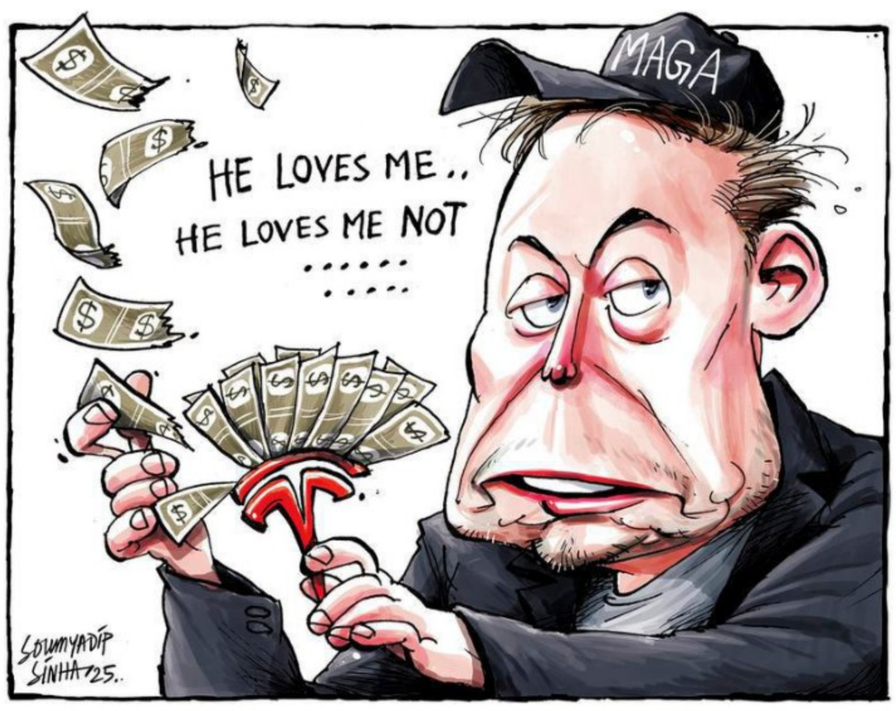
Upcoming talks

Mr. Trump's West Asia pointman Steve Witkoff is set to hold a sixth round of talks with Iran on Sunday in Oman, which has mediated.

Mr. Trump again described himself as a man of peace.

"I'd love to avoid the conflict. Iran's going to have to negotiate a little bit tougher – meaning they're going to have to give us some things that they're not willing to give us right now," he said.

On the draw



China says it issued rare earth export licences

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

China said on Thursday it had issued a "certain number" of licences to export rare earths after U.S. President Donald Trump hailed this week's deal that would see the country provide the vital elements "up front".

The economic superpowers said after talks in London that they had achieved progress in dialling down a brutal trade war that has threatened global supply chain chaos.

Japan, China trade blame over latter's jets flying close to Japanese aircraft

Associated Press
TOKYO

Japan and China blamed each other on Thursday after Tokyo raised concern that a Chinese fighter jet came dangerously close to Japanese reconnaissance planes.

The Chinese fighter jets took off from one of two Chinese aircraft carriers that were operating together for the first time in the Pacific, Japan's Defence Ministry said.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi told reporters that Japan conveyed its "serious concern" to China that such close encounters could cause accidental collisions.

According to Japan, a Chinese J-15 fighter jet took off from the *Shandong* aircraft carrier on Saturday and chased a Japanese P-3C aircraft on reconnaissance duty, coming within an "abnormally close distance" of 45 metres for about 40 minutes.

A Chinese J-15 fighter jet making an 'unusual approach' to a Japanese P-3C patrol aircraft above the Pacific Ocean. AFP

A Chinese jet also crossed 900 metres in front of a Japanese P-3C for about 80 minutes on Sunday, the Ministry said.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian defended China's activities as being fully consistent with international law and practices, and blamed Japanese vessels and aircraft for conducting close reconnaissance of China's military activities.

The incidents occurred in the Pacific, where Japan's Self-Defence Force spotted the two carriers, the *Shandong* and the *Liaoning*, almost simultaneously operating near southern Japanese islands for the first time.

Aircraft carriers are critical to projecting power at a distance. China routinely sends coast guard vessels, warships and warplanes around disputed East China Sea islands, but now they also reach as far as Guam, a U.S. Pacific territory with military bases.

Both Chinese carriers operated in waters off Iwo Jima, about 1,200 kilometres south of Tokyo.

The *Liaoning* also sailed inside Japan's exclusive economic zone near Minamitorishima, the country's easternmost island, Japan's Defence Minister Gen Nakatani said.

There was no violation of Japanese territorial waters, he said.

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

NIT No.02: Tender Notice No.02/SE(P-C, N&EZ)/GHMC/2025-26 (2nd Call), Dt:11-06-2025; **Name of the work:** "Repair and Rehabilitation measures for Begumpet ROB at Begumpet Railway Station, Hyderabad"; **Estimate Amount/ECV:** Rs.2000.00 Lakhs; **Start date/ Last Date & Time for receipts of Bids: Start Date:** 13-06-2025 @ 3.00 p.m.; **Last Date & Time for receipts of Bids**: 01-07-2025 @ 3.00 p.m.; **Name & Address Officer Cell No:** O/o Superintending Engineer (Projects-C,N&EZ), GHMC, 9063843646. Further details can be seen at "e" Procurement @ **www.tender.telangana.gov.in.** Or can be contact Office of the Superintending Engineer (P-C,N&EZ), GHMC in office working hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Projects-C, N&EZ), GHMC

DIPR R.O.No.3496-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 12.06.2025

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION JHUNJHUNU

No.:- Date:-

NIB code PWD2526A0848 and UBN is: PWD2526WLOB02727

Notice Inviting Bid No. 08/2025-26

Bids for 06 (Six Nos) Road Work are invited from interested bidders upto 06:00 PM dated 27.05.2025 to 17.06.2025 Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state; and PWD departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is **Rs. 1248.54 Lacs**.

NIB No.

1. UBN No. PWD2526WLOB02727 2. UBN No. PWD2526WLOB02727
3. UBN No. PWD2526WLOB02727 4. UBN No. PWD2526WLOB02727
5 UBN No. PWD2526WLOB02727 6. UBN No. PWD2526WLOB02727

Executive Engineer PWD Division JHUNJHUNU

DIPR/C/7143/25

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer(Project) PHED, Churu

E-mail-ace.chu.phed@rajasthan.gov.in

No. 359-396 Date:- 23-05-2025

Corrigendum No. 01 For this office NIT No. 01/2025-26

Corrrigendum No. 01 for this office NIT NO. 01/2025-26 Estimated Rs. 237.87 Crore(UBN is: PHE2526WLOB01689 & Tender ID 2025_PHCJ_462297_1) may be visited on the procurement portal http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in

SAVE WATER-SAVE LIFE

(Rammurti) Add. Chief Engineer(P) PHED, Project Region Churu

DIPR/C/6996/2025

RAJASTHAN STATE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Rajasthan Government Undertaking)

Udyog Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur- 302005, Phone- 0141-2227751, 4593201
E-mail: riico@riico.co.in Website-riico.rajasthan.gov.in

TENDER NOTICE

RIICO invites sealed tenders/bids through eproc.rajasthan.gov.in for the following works/ services/supply etc.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.in Lacs)
1.	Advisor (A&M), RIICO, Udyog Bhawan, Jaipur	
1.1	Providing Taxi Vehicles on Hiring Basis at RIICO Office, Udyog Bhawan Jaipur for a period of Two Years. **UBN-RDC2526SLOB00332**	480.00

Bidders/contractors may download and submit tender online. Detailed information of tenders and any kind of corrigendum/ date extension, if any in future, may be seen by bidders on websites riico.rajasthan.gov.in, www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in

For queries please contact: Manager (GAD) Mob No. 9414040169

Raj.Samwad/C/25/4161

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.
Ph.: 04324-277001 (10 Lines).

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
252613 001810	Erection and Testing of CS & SS Pipes and Fittings including Valves and supports in OSBL area for RSPS #2 Project at TNPL Unit - I, Kagithapuram Karur.	02.07.2025
252613 001828	Procurement of Maize Based Native Starch (In Jumbo Bags) for Unit - I.	26.06.2025
Email	252613001810 - pmd8@tnpl.co.in 252613001828 - purchase.rawmati@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website & NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions, tender fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

DIPR/2999/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

FLUID CONTROL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(Autonomous Body under Government of India, Ministry of Heavy Industries)
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Invites applications for the post of DIRECTOR

Notification No. 8-18/2/2020-PE-VIII dated 07 June 2025

Educational Qualifications	Experience	Pay Level	Maximum Age
Essential: *Post Graduate in any branch of Engineering from recognized University / Institution* ***Desirable:*** *PhD in Engineering or PG in Management Sciences from recognized University / Institution*	***Essential:*** *20 years in any industry or institute, with last 5 years at senior management level dealing with technical & administrative matters, financial control, HR management.* ***Desirable:*** *5 years' experience in fluid flow domain.*	*Level 14 in pay matrix 7th CPC*	*55 years and for internal candidates 58 years as on closing date for receipt of applications*

For details, refer notification in The Employment News or at websites of Ministry of Heavy Industries, DoPT or FCRI (www.fcriindia.com/career).

Applications Closing Date: 09/07/2025

The Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation Limited
Door No. 294/1D, 100 feet Road (Tadigadapa to Enikepadu Road), Kanuru, Vijayawada-521137, Andhra Pradesh, India, Tel: +91-866-2429999
Fax: +91-866-2429977, Email: contracts-ho@apmdc.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No: APMDC/HO/P&C/Pipe Line Dismantling and Placing of new Pipe Line-M'pet/2025-26 Dt:13.06.2025

APMDC invites E-tender from reputed Agencies for **"Selection of Agency for Dismantling & Removing of Existing 300mm Dia of Pipe Line and Placing in new Alignment at Mangampeta Barytes Project, Mangampet Village, Obulavaripalli (M), Andhra Pradesh".** For more information on the eligibility criteria, tender fees, timelines and other details, please visit e-procurement website of **GoAP www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in**) or APMDC website (**www.apmdc.ap.gov.in**). The Tender document is available for downloading from **13.06.2025** and the last date for bid submission is **03.07.2025 by 17:00 Hrs.**

Place : Vijayawada **Sd/- Managing Director**
Date : 13-06-2025 **The A.P. Mineral Development Corporation Limited**

DIPR 4182PP/CL, Dt: 12-06-2025

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा

क्रमांक 652 दिनांकः 28/5/2025

संशोधित निविदा संख्या – 02 /2025-26

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 272 दिनांक 28.04.2025 एवं संशोधित पत्रांक 627 दिनांक 27.05.2025 के द्वारा प्रकाशित निविदा सूचना संख्या- 02 /2025-26 में निम्न संशोधन किया जाता है।

क्र.सं.	पूर्व में	अब यह पढ़ा जावे
1	Clasue 3. (ii) The Bidder should have completed at least one work of similar nature of Road work in last five years (including current year, if opted by the bidder) 50% of the cost of the work (bid work.)	Clasue 3. (ii) The Bidder should have completed at least one work of similar nature of Road work in last five years (including current year, if opted by the bidder) 33.33% of the cost of the work (bid work.)
2	Clasue 3. (iii) The Bidder should have achieved a financial turnover of atleast 60.00% of the cost of work (bid coast) in any of the last five financial years (audited). However, the bidder amy opt the current year in the five years assessment period.	Clasue 3. (iii) The Bidder should have achieved a financial turnover of atleast 33.33% of the cost of work (bid coast) in any of the last five financial years (audited). However, the bidder amy opt the current year in the five years assessment period.
1	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने एवं जमा कराने की तारीख 06.05.2025 से 30.05.2025 सायं 6.00 बजे तक	ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने एवं जमा कराने की तारीख 06.05.2025 से 09.06.2025 सायं 6.00 बजे तक
2	ऑनलाईन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख 03.06.2025 अपरान्ह 3.00 बजे तक	ऑनलाईन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख 11.06.2025 अपरान्ह 3.00 बजे तक
3	बोली प्रतिभूति जमा कराने की तारीख 02.06.2025 को सायं 4.00 बजे तक कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. संभाग कोटा	बोली प्रतिभूति जमा कराने की तारीख 10.06.2025 को सायं 4.00 बजे तक कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. संभाग कोटा

निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।

UBN No.

1. PWD2526WLOB01047 4. PWD2526WLOB01050 7. PWD2526WLOB01055
2. PWD2526WLOB01048 5. PWD2526WLOB01051 8. PWD2526WLOB01056
3. PWD2526WSOB01049 6. PWD2526WLOB01053 9. PWD2526WLOB01057

अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. संभाग कोटा

DIPR/C/7204/25

LEADER OF THE PACK

Cummins has the best figures by a captain in Tests at Lord's

REUTERS

Pat Cummins, with a six for 28 in South Africa's first innings, registered the best figures by a captain in Tests at the Lord's Cricket Ground. He bettered Bob Willis' six for 101 against India in 1982. He also equalled Richie Benaud's tally of nine five-wicket hauls in Tests by a skipper, with the pair only behind Imran Khan (12).

ELITE CLUB

Cummins eighth Australian bowler with 300 or more Test scalps

REUTERS

Pat Cummins became the eighth Australian to take 300 or more wickets in Tests, joining an elite club comprising Shane Warne, Glenn McGrath, Nathan Lyon, Mitchell Starc, Dennis Lillee, Mitchell Johnson, and Brett Lee. He also went past Starc (11 wickets) to become the bowler with the most scalps in ICC tournament finals.

INSPIRATIONAL

Gambhir all praise for Karun's never-say-die attitude

GETTY IMAGES

Head coach Gautam Gambhir praised Karun Nair, who made a comeback to the Indian team. "Comebacks are never easy, someone who has made a comeback after seven years had a phenomenal last year. That never-say-die attitude, which got you back into the team, is inspiring for everyone in this group," he said.

IN THE MIX

Radha replaces injured Shuchi in India squad for England tour

FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Left-arm spinner Radha Yadav has replaced injured Shuchi Upadhyay in the India women's squad for the upcoming England tour starting on June 28. BCCI said the 20-year-old left-arm spinner Shuchi, who made her ODI debut last month during the tri-series in Sri Lanka, has sustained a left shin injury.

Tantalising finish on the cards in title clash

After Cummins' six-for skittles out South Africa for 138, Ngidi & Co. return the favour to keep Australia to 144 for eight at stumps; 28 wickets fall in just two days of play

Speedsters' day out: While Australia's Cummins produced a sensational spell, Ngidi sparked South Africa's fightback. REUTERS, GETTY IMAGES

WTC FINAL

Associated Press
LONDON

A low-scoring World Test Championship final was heading to a thrilling conclusion after Australia took a 74-run first-innings lead before being reduced to 144 for eight by South Africa at close on day two at Lord's on Thursday.

It was a landmark day for Australia captain Pat Cummins, who took six for 28 to get to 300 wickets in his Test career and dismiss the Proteas for 138 following a whirlwind hour after lunch when the Baggy Greens claimed South Africa's last five wickets for 12 runs in just 5.5 overs.

A Test dominated by pace bowling continued in that vein in Australia's second innings, with Kagiso Rabada – who took five for 51 to help restrict the Australians to 212 on day one – again removing Usman Khawaja and Cameron Green in one over before Lungi Ngidi took three wickets, including that of dangerman Steve Smith (13), in an inspired spell.

Tottering at 73 for seven, Australia managed to rebuild in the final hour through an eighth-wicket partnership of 61 between wicketkeeper Alex Carey (43) and Mitchell Starc (16 batting).

Rabada (three for 44) trapped Carey lbw in another twist in the penultimate at the home of cricket as 14 wickets tumbled for the second straight day.

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA — 1ST INNINGS
212 in 56.4 overs.

SOUTH AFRICA — 1ST INNINGS
Aiden Markram b Starc 0 *(6b)*, Ryan Rickelton c Khawaja b Starc 16 *(23b, 3x4)*, Wiaan Mulder b Cummins 6 *(44b)*, Temba Bavuma c Labuschagne b Cummins 36 *(84b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Tristan Stubbs b Hazlewood 2 *(13b)*, David Bedingham c Carey b Cummins 45 *(111b, 6x4)*, Kyle Verreynne lbw b Cummins 13 *(39b)*, Marco Jansen c & b Cummins 0 *(3b)*, Keshav Maharaj run out 7 *(15b, 1x4)*, Kagiso Rabada c Webster b Cummins 1 *(6b)*, Lungi Ngidi (not out) 0 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-10, nb-2): 12; Total (in 57.1 overs): 138.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-0 (Markram, 0.6 overs), 2-19 (Rickelton, 8.4), 3-25 (Mulder, 15.2), 4-30 (Stubbs, 20.2), 5-94 (Bavuma, 39.2), 6-126 (Verreynne, 51.3), 7-126 (Jansen, 51.6), 8-135 (Bedingham, 55.2), 9-138 (Maharaj, 56.5).

AUSTRALIA BOWLING
Starc 13-3-41-2, Hazlewood 15-5-27-1, Cummins 18.1-6-28-6, Lyon 8-3-12-0, Webster 3-0-20-0.

AUSTRALIA — 2ND INNINGS
Marnus Labuschagne c Verreynne b Jansen 22 *(64b, 2x4)*, Usman Khawaja c Verreynne b Rabada 6 *(23b)*, Cameron Green c Mulder b Rabada 0 *(2b)*, Steve Smith lbw b Ngidi 13 *(25b, 1x4)*, Travis Head b Mulder 9 *(18b, 1x4)*, Beau Webster lbw b Ngidi 9 *(11b, 1x4)*, Alex Carey lbw b Rabada 43 *(50b, 5x4)*, Pat Cummins b Ngidi 6 *(5b, 1x4)*, Mitchell Starc (batting) 16 *(47b)*, Nathan Lyon (batting) 1 *(4b)*; Extras (b-4, lb-6, nb-9): 19; Total (for eight wkts. in 40 overs): 144.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-28 (Khawaja, 10.2), 2-28 (Green, 10.4), 3-44 (Labuschagne, 17.5), 4-48 (Smith, 18.5), 5-64 (Webster, 22.6), 6-66 (Head, 23.4), 7-73 (Cummins, 24.5), 8-134 (Carey, 38.2).

SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING
Rabada 11-0-44-3, Jansen 12-3-31-1, Mulder 6-0-14-1, Ngidi 9-0-35-3, Maharaj 2-0-10-0.

India loses after dramatic contest

Press Trust of India
AMSTELVEEN

India's late goal from a penalty was disallowed as it lost 1-2 to Argentina for its fourth successive defeat in the European leg of the FIH Pro League hockey on Thursday.

Drag-flicker Jugraj Singh struck in the fourth minute off the first penalty corner of the match, but Tomas Domene (ninth and 49th) scored, both from PCs, to hand Argentina a win.

India earned a penalty stroke two minutes from the final hooter, and Jugraj was successful. Argentina asked for a video referral that Jugraj's left foot was ahead of the ball while he took the stroke.

The video umpire ruled in Argentina's favour, but India captain Hardik Singh asked the referee to check whether goalkeeper Tomas Santiago was already ahead of the goal-line before Jugraj took the stroke.

This time, India got a favourable decision. Jugraj was allowed to retake the stroke, but his shot was saved this time by Santiago.

Come out of comfort zone: coach Gambhir to players

INDIA IN ENGLAND

Press Trust of India
BECKENHAM

India head coach Gautam Gambhir has urged his team to move out of its "comfort zone" and make the upcoming Test series against England a "memorable" one, especially in the absence of retired stars Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and R. Ashwin.

India will aim for their maiden series victory in England since 2007, when the five-match rubber starts with the first Test at Leeds on June 20.

"There are two ways of looking at this tour. One is we are without our three most experienced players or we got this phenomenal opportunity to do something special for the country," said Gambhir, referring to the recent retirements of Ashwin, Rohit and Kohli.

The former India opener said he can feel the "passion and the commitment" to achieve something special flowing through the current bunch, led by Shubman Gill.

"When I look around in this group, I think I see the hunger, the passion and the commitment to do something special. If we make sacrifices, if we come out of our comfort zone, if we start fighting not every day but every session, every hour and every ball, I think we can have a memorable tour," he added.

Ready to go: Gambhir feels the Gill-led team can do something special. X@BCCI

Gambhir welcomed the whole squad to the tour of England, and extended a special tribute to some of the members, starting with Sai Sudharsan.

Always special

"First Test calls are always special, so I want to welcome Sai, who has a fabulous three months with the bat and make sure you have a very very successful red ball career."

"I want to welcome Arshdeep Singh. You have been phenomenal with the white ball and I am sure you will make it count with the red ball in your hand."

Intra-squad match

Meanwhile, the senior Indian team's four-day intra-squad warm-up game against India-A, starting here on Friday, will be a precursor to the first Test.

The Indian team under Gambhir opted for a "closed door" session to prevent the opposition from getting any ideas on the tactical front, emulating a long-established practice among European football clubs.

The four-day game, which doesn't have official first-class status, gives batters a second go if someone is dismissed cheaply.

With 360 overs of match simulation available over four days, it will give the team management a chance to allow the bowling unit get enough overs under their belt.

That would be handy in ensuring that the bowlers -- be it a spinner or a pacer -- have the requisite rhythm in actual match.

Gambhir will have some work to do in terms of zeroing in on the lone specialist spinner for the Headingley Test.

U Mumba overcomes Dabang, seals a spot in the semifinal

UTT

Amol Karhadkar
AHMEDABAD

Around an hour into the final league match of the Ultimate Table Tennis-season six, the moment Quek Izaac sent a forehand topspin out of the table, Akash Pal and Bernadette Szocs, U Mumba TT's tried and tested mixed doubles combination, had a big smile on their faces.

Players of Dabang Delhi TTC also rose to celebrate, with Lilian 'T-Rex' Bardet - who breached G. Sathiyan's defence to start the night on an ideal note for U Mumba - all smiles along with coaches. The elementary objective of winning five points - and thus confirming the final semifinal spot for U Mumba had been achieved.

While it meant a heartbreak for Kolkata ThunderBlades, glued to their screens at the hotel on the other side of the Sabarmati, U Mumba became the first team to defeat Dabang Delhi this season.

The reverse singles saw debutantes' day out, with youngsters fielded by both the teams coming up with an impressive show. Thanks to his control on the backhand, courtesy a short-pimpled rubber, and forehand winners close to the table, P.B. Abhinandh surprised Quek Izaac to put U Mumba on the cusp of a win.

Pumped up: Abhinandh pulled off an impressive win over Izaac. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Suhana Saini, the Delhi debutante, then stretched in-form Yashaswini Ghorpade but couldn't convert two golden points off her senior.

Homage

The UTT organisers paid homage to the victims of the Air India plane-crash close to the Ahmedabad airport. Sporting black armbands, members of both teams observed a minute's silence at the start of the match. The organisers did not play music right through the evening.

The result: U Mumba TT bt Dabang Delhi TTC 10-5
(Lilian Bardet bt G. Sathiyan 11-10, 4-11, 11-4; Bernadette Szocs bt Diya Chitale 3-11, 11-10, 11-8; Szocs & Akash Pal lost to Diya & Quek Izaac 11-5, 7-11, 5-11; Abhinandh bt Izaac 11-4, 11-9, 7-11; Yashaswini Ghorpade bt Suhana Saini 11-10, 11-10, 11-3).

League standings:
Dabang Delhi TTC 44 points, Dempo Goa Challengers 44, U Mumba TT 42, Jaipur Patriots 41,Kolkata ThunderBlades 36, PBG Pune Jaguars 34, Ahmedabad SG Pipers 30, Stanley's Chennai Lions 29.

Semifinal line-up:
Dabang Delhi TTC vs Jaipur Patriots (Friday, 7.30 p.m.); Dempo Goa Challengers vs U Mumba TT (Saturday, 7.30 p.m.).

Growing in confidence: Sreeja has remained unbeaten in this campaign. VIJAY SONEJI

Sreeja finds a purple patch in Jaipur's pink

Amol Karhadkar
AHMEDABAD

Almost a year ago, Sreeja Akula was flying high.

While achieving a rare feat of an Indian paddler featuring in the singles round-of-16 at the Olympics, Sreeja was also on the brink of breaking into the top-20 world rankings.

But soon after returning from Paris, Sreeja was diagnosed with a stress fracture that took longer than expected to heal.

But the Hyderabad girl has revelled in the pink jersey of Jaipur Patriots in the Ultimate Table Tennis. After missing the fifth season due to the stress fracture, Sreeja has remained unbeaten in season six - Zeng Jian of Goa Challengers is the only other unbeaten singles player this season - to spearhead Patriots' smooth ride into the semifinals.

"UTT has helped because I have played different opponents and mixed doubles as well," Sreeja told *The Hindu*. "I have been continuing my routine every day. But I also wanted to play many matches, and this league is a very good stage where I can try different things."

While Patriots - who had a forgettable UTT debut last season without Sreeja - started on a disastrous note, Sreeja was the only bright spot in their campaign-opener against Dabang Delhi TTC. Groomed in confidence with a close win against Maria Xiao, Sreeja went on to account for Bernadette Szocs, the World No. 12.

Sreeja is confident that the three weeks at UTT will help her in her future endeavours, starting with the US Open and heading into three major Smash events on the world circuit.

"It took some time for me to recover, it's all about ups and downs, and I just have to accept it and take the learnings and move on. I've tried to figure out what went wrong, and I am getting back to my best. I am confident that I will be in the zone pretty soon".

INBRIEF

Pacers bounce back to down Thunder, take 2-1 lead

Indiana Pacers bounced back to defeat the Oklahoma City Thunder 116-107 and take a 2-1 series lead in the NBA Finals at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis on Wednesday. Bennedict Mathurin scored 27 points off the bench and Tyrese Haliburton finished with 22 as the Pacers shrugged off Sunday's emphatic game-two loss to reignite their finals challenge.

The result: Indiana Pacers 116 (Mathurin 27, Haliburton 22, Siakam 21) bt Oklahoma City Thunder 107 (Williams 26, Gilgeous-Alexander 24, Holmgren 20). *Pacers lead series 2-1.*

'I'm very excited to show my game to Madrid fans'

Trent Alexander-Arnold was officially introduced by Real Madrid on Thursday, saying he was fulfilling his dream to play for the Spanish powerhouse. "To sign with a club like Real Madrid doesn't happen very often. It's a dream come true. I'm very happy and proud to be here. I'm very excited to show my game to Madrid fans," he said.

De Bruyne signs for Serie A champion Napoli

Kevin De Bruyne has signed for Napoli as a free agent after being released by Manchester City, the Serie A champion confirmed on Thursday.The Belgium midfielder has reportedly signed a two-year deal with an option for a third at Napoli, where he will join up with international teammate Romelu Lukaku and former Manchester United midfielder Scott McTominay. The 33-year-old left City at the end of this past season after a trophy-packed decade in Manchester, where he won six Premier League titles and in 2023 the Champions League.

PSG aims for Club World Cup glory after historic Champions League win

The French club is one of 12 from Europe, including stellar names like Real, Manchester City, Bayern, Inter and Juventus; Brazil's Botafogo, Palmeiras, Flamengo and Fluminense along with Argentina's River Plate and Boca Juniors will likely present the biggest challenge to the European teams

FOOTBALL

Associated Press
PARIS

Getting ready: Inter Miami's Luis Suarez, right, and Maximiliano Falcon at a training session. AP

Just weeks after winning the Champions League for the first time in its history, Paris Saint-Germain's eyes are now fixed on FIFA's shiny new Club World Cup.

The newly-crowned European champion can add the world title to a trophy haul that also included a French league and cup double this season.

"We want to finish the season in style with the cherry on the cake," coach Luis Enrique said.

PSG had already qualified for the rebooted Club World Cup in the United States, but its Champions League triumph may still have come as a relief to FIFA, the governing body.

That's because, while the winner of the bumper tournament will officially be crowned the best club football team in the world, there are some notable absentees from the 32-team roster.

The tournament will be without the Premier League champion given Liverpool's failure to meet the qualifying criteria. The same goes for Barcelona and Napoli – champions of Spain and Italy, respectively.

No place either for current Asian champion Al-Ahli from Saudi Arabia or Pyramids – the African champion from Egypt.

The qualifying criteria was based on winners of continental trophies in the four years prior to the tournament, but not including the season directly before it.

That's why Chelsea – Champions League winner in 2021 – has a seat at the table despite finishing fourth in the Premier League last month.

The club is one of 12 from Europe, including stellar names like Real Madrid, PSG, Manchester City, Bayern Munich, Inter and Juventus.

Some of Latin America's biggest teams are in the tournament – including reigning Copa Libertadores champion Botafogo from Brazil. Three other Brazilian teams have qualified: Palmeiras, Flamengo and Fluminense.

Argentina's famous rivals River Plate and Boca Juniors will also be there. It is the Latin American contingent that likely will likely present the biggest challenge to the European teams.

In its previous format, which involved a mini-tournament of just seven teams instead of 32, it never fully captured global interest. Played in the middle of the season for Europe's top leagues, it had the feel of an exhibition, rather than a serious tournament. European teams dominated the modern era, winning all but one of the last 17 editions.

Referees to wear body-cams, but no controversial incidents on air

Agence France-Presse
MIAMI

Stated goal: Collina, chairman of the FIFA Referees Committee, says the objective is to offer the TV viewers a new experience. AFP

Referees at this month's Club World will wear 'body cams' with the footage used in broadcasts of the game – but only if the images are of non-controversial incidents, FIFA refereeing officials said on Wednesday.

The match referees in the tournament will wear a small camera protruding from their earpiece which will be able to generate video from the referees point of view.

But while broadcasters will be able to offer unique angles on goals and saves – as well as close-up live video and sound from the pre-match coin toss – viewers won't get to see penalty decisions or other disputable moments from the new camera angle.

"The objective is to offer the TV viewers a new experience," said Pierluigi Collina, the chairman of the FIFA Referees Committee.

Collina said that IFAB, which sets the laws of the game had allowed a trial of the technology and suggested that footage of controversies might be part of a later phase in the future.

What Club World Cup fans will be able to see are the VAR reviews, as seen by referees on the pitch-side monitor, which will be broadcast on giant screens in the stadium.

That video will then be followed by the referee announcing the final decision over the public address system and the television broadcast.

The tournament will also see the use of 'enhanced semi-automatic offside' technology which will use 16 cameras linked to AI technology and algorithms.

The system will likely see the flag raised earlier for offside and reduce cases of play continuing after a clear offside until a later VAR review.

Sift bags rifle 3-position bronze for second medal of the season

SHOOTING

Sports Bureau

Sift..another podium finish. ISSF

World record holder and Asian Games gold medallist, Sift Kaur Samra bagged the bronze medal in the 50-metre rifle 3-position event in the shooting World Cup in Munich, Germany, on Thursday.

After qualifying with the top score of 592, Sift slipped behind the leaders initially, and eventually fought her way past Sagen Maddalena of USA to the medal. It was the second medal this season for the 23-year-old Sift, following the gold in the World Cup in Buenos Aires. Norway's Jeanette Duestad won gold.

Kiran Jadhav had the best performance among the Indians in men's air rifle gold, as he shot 631.7 and missed the final by 0.1 point.

China was on top of the medals table with three gold and a bronze, while Norway had two gold and a silver. India has won two bronze medals so far.

The results: 10m air rifle: Men: 1. Ilia Marsov (AIN) 252.3 (633.5), 2. Jon-Hermann Hegg (Nor) 252.0 (633.0), 3. Sheng Lihao (Chn) 230.2 (635.3); 11. Kiran Jadhav 631.7; 43. Arjun Babuta 629.1; 53. Sandeep Singh 628.3; RPO: Umamahesh Maddineni 632.3; Niraj Kumar 629.6.

50m rifle 3-position: Women: 1. Jeanette Duestad (Nor) 466.9 (591), 2. Emely Jaeggi (Sui) 464.8 (590), 3. Sift Kaur Samra 453.1 (592); 11. Ashi Chouksey 589; 53. Shriyanka Sadangi 582; RPO: Anjum Moudgil 586; Nischal 580.

Verstappen seeks fourth Canada win and a trouble-free weekend

FORMULA ONE

Agence France-Presse
MONTREAL

Much to ponder: Verstappen will hope nothing untoward happens that could affect his chances. REUTERS

Max Verstappen will be seeking a record fourth consecutive Canadian Grand Prix triumph this weekend and a trouble-free race that helps him banish the threat of a suspension following his "rash" moment in Spain.

The four-time World champion goes into Sunday's race knowing that, if he collects one more penalty point on his racing license, he will automatically miss the Austrian Grand Prix later this month.

The 27-year-old, who lies third in the drivers' championship with 137 points, behind Oscar Piastri (186) and his McLaren team-mate Lando Norris (176), was penalised at the Spanish Grand Prix for ramming into George Russell's Mercedes.

"Barcelona was disappointing for us," admitted Verstappen. "Although we gave it everything, it was not the way we would have liked the race to turn out...We are looking forward to Canada...the track is unique, has some old school kerbs and plenty of opportunities for overtaking."

Mercedes and Ferrari will also hope for encouragement at the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve where a big crowd is likely to give home hope Lance Stroll support as he returns after a medical procedure to reduce wrist and hand pain.

Barren run

The Silver Arrows are winless since the Las Vegas Grand Prix last year while McLaren, remarkably given its current supremacy, has not won in Canada since 2012 when seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton claimed one of his seven wins at the venue, a record that he shares with Michael Schumacher.

Ferrari's Hamilton arrives in Canada without a single podium finish this year and in need of a boost as he struggles with his car amid much paddock debate about the wisdom of his decision to leave Mercedes, where he won six of his seven titles.

Haas team will mark its 200th race by switching to a grey livery that recalls its original colours in 2016.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Easy outing for Bangalore Reds

Bangalore Reds FC blanked Bangalore Youngsters FC 5-0 in the BDFA 'C' division football league here.

The results: ECD FC bt Sarvagnanagar FC 2-1; Bangalore Reds FC bt Bangalore Youngsters FC 5-0.

KSFA 'C' div: FC Mangalore bt Kickstart Academy 4-0; Mysore Vijayanagara FA bt TAL FC 7-0.

KSFA U-21 league (semifinals): Kickstart FC bt Raman SA 5-0; Alchemy IFA bt FC Real Bengaluru 4-2.

Champion: The victorious Play Smart Cricket Academy squad. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Play Smart CA triumphs

Play Smart Cricket Academy took out Social Cricketers in the final to emerge as the Tiger Cup under-14 tournament champion here.

The scores (final): Play Smart CA 190/9 in 30 overs (Sachith Shetty 57, Lithik Reddy 32, Joe Francis 4/20) bt Social Cricketers 124/7 in 30 overs (Shaurya Gowda 41).

Abhinav and Vedhalakshmi reign

Abhinav Murthy and D.K. Vedhalakshmi won the men's and women's singles titles respectively in the Karnataka State-ranking table tennis tournament held at Match Point Table Tennis Academy here.

Triumphant: Vedhalakshmi and Abhinav with their reward.

The results (finals): Men: Abhinav Murthy bt V.G. Vibhas 9-11, 11-7, 9-11, 9-11, 11-9, 11-7, 13-11.

Women: D.K. Vedhalakshmi bt V. Kushi 9-11, 14-12, 12-10, 11-5, 11-9.

IISC Gymkhana posts win

IISC Gymkhana defeated Hoysala Hockey Club 4-2 in the 94th State Level Travancore Cup hockey tournament here.

The results:

IISC Gymkhana 4 (Siddarth 43, Rahul Roy 44, Pawan Kashyap 46, Ashish 49) bt Hoysala Hockey Club 2 (Shiva 5, Surya 35).

Samant Sports Academy 3 (Prakasha 5, Sunder 11, Hari Haran 11) bt Gameon Hockey Club 1 (Vivek Uthappa 20).

LIVE TELECAST

WTC Final: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3 p.m.

TNPL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 7.15 p.m.

Ultimate Table Tennis: JioHotstar, 7.30 p.m.

Wimbledon's prize money set for boost

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Wimbledon prize money will increase by seven percent to a record pot of £53.5 million for this year's championships as pressure grows from players for a greater slice of Grand Slam profits.

The winners of the men's and women's singles titles will each receive £3 million, an increase of more than 11 % on 2024, while a main draw spot is worth a minimum of £66,000, up 10 %.

The All England Club's announcement comes after growing player demands for a bigger share of revenue from the Majors.

All England Club chairwoman Debbie Jevans said at Wimbledon's pre-tournament media briefing on Thursday the club was "absolutely committed to continuing our longstanding commitment to player compensation".

In a major change at Wimbledon this year, line judges are being replaced by a live electronic calling system.